

**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT AND CRIME  
PREVALENCE IN WAJIR COUNTY, KENYA.**

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**JUNE 2022**

**DECLARATION**

I declare that this document and the research that it describes are my original, work and that they have not been presented in any other university for academic work.

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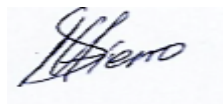
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### **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this work to my family. I am extremely grateful to my late Mother, Bilaney Dakane and late father Dubow Abdikheir for their love, prayers, caring and sacrifices for educating and preparing me for my future. I am very much thankful to my wife Nimo Ibrahim and my daughters (Hafsa, Zeinab and Tasnim) and sons (Harun and Mohamed amin) for their love, understanding, prayers and continuing support to complete this thesis.

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## ABSTRACT

Youth unemployment is a serious problem in most countries in Africa. Africa is one of the regions highly affected by youth unemployment. It is estimated that more than 21% of youths in Africa are unemployed. It is estimated that 64 percent of unemployed persons in Kenya are youth. The problem of unemployment has contributed to several related challenges both indirectly and directly. The nature of youth unemployment in Wajir has been documented in various economic reports. Although the prevalence rates of crime are well documented, there is little knowledge about the interaction of youth unemployment and the prevalence of criminal activities. The purpose of this study was to establish the relationship between youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir. The study examined the types of the criminal activities that are undertaken by youth in Wajir County. It explored the causes of these criminal activities. The study was guided by the following research objectives; to determine the relationship between the typology of youth-related crimes and crime prevalence in Wajir County; to establish the relationship between socio-economic perspectives of youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir County; to examine the relationship between government policies on youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County, to establish the relationship between strategies used in crime prevention and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County. The study used mixed research method combining descriptive survey and correlational research designs. The target population of this study comprised of the police, County staff, residents of Wajir County and personnel from the Ministry of Youth personnel and Wajir County. Respondents were selected using both simple random and purposive sampling techniques. The sample size comprised of 235 respondents. Data was collected using questionnaires, interview schedule and documentary analysis. Data was analyzed using while quantitative data was analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics where multiple correlations were used. The findings of the study were presented using charts, frequency tables and graphs. The findings of this study are significant to police officers and other security agents within the County. The study finds that there is a relationship between the type of crime prevalent in Wajir County and unemployed youths. The study further concludes that government policies regarding youth unemployment contributed significantly in addressing youth-related criminal activities in the County. The study recommends that the County government should identify the type of youth-related crimes which common among the youths in Wajir County. The study recommends that economic empowerment initiatives should be better coordinated with young people first receiving training to equip them with money management and enterprise skills before being given loans. The study also recommends that the County government of Wajir should come up with appropriate policies that are meant reduce youth unemployment by enhancing access to initiatives like youth funds and 30% preference in public procurement for youth.

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Community policing** –It will constitute to the various techniques that will be adopted to support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

**Crime** – an action that is against prescribed laws which can render an individual punishable by law.

**Criminality;** Deduced as being the specific action that clearly are against the rule of law

**Police reform** is a broad concept that is used to refer to the various ways that police forces across the globe are transforming.

**Nyumba Kumi Initiative** – is where clusters of ten houses meet regularly (twice a month), share information with each other, and, when needed, provide this information to relevant levels of the national administration.

**Radicalization** is a process by which an individual or group comes to adopt radical political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations that reject or undermine the status quo or contemporary ideas and expressions of the nation.

**ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>IED:</b>   | Improvised Explosive Device                   |
| <b>ILO:</b>   | International Labour Organization             |
| <b>KII:</b>   | Key Informants Interview                      |
| <b>KIIs:</b>  | Key Informed Interviews                       |
| <b>MOE:</b>   | Ministry of Education                         |
| <b>SPSS:</b>  | Statistical Packages for Social Scientists    |
| <b>UNHCR:</b> | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| <b>USA:</b>   | United States of America                      |
| <b>VAT:</b>   | Value Added Tax                               |
| <b>VEOs:</b>  | Violent Extremists Organization               |
| <b>YEDF:</b>  | Youth Enterprise and Development Fund.        |

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the background of the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, objectives of the study, research questions, rationale of the study, scope of the study, limitations and delimitations of the study, assumption of the study, hypothesis of the study and finally theoretical and conceptual frameworks.

#### **1.2 Background of the Study**

Crime is present in majority of the societies in the world. There is no single nation across the world that does not record criminal occurrences. However, the cause and rate of prevalence varies accordingly. There is no society that is not faced with the problem of criminality. According to data from global crime trends, there is sudden escalation of homicides in Central America and the Caribbean. A sharp decline has been observed in Central Asia in recent years (United Nations, 2020). Violence is often blamed on deep social causes whose nature does not change overnight (UNODC, 2016). It forms adjustments, so the features are not the similar all over, but all over and always, men who have behaved to use criminal repression (Selim & Kizilgol, 2017). Sociologists have been raising key questions regarding crime and where it is committed. They have been concerned with whether crime occurs in certain geographical locations or are criminal activities predominant in urban or rural settings. These pertinent questions need to be explained and are the concern of this study.

In virtually all countries in the world, criminal activity rises with age. Crime is at its peak in the late teens, then falls as people get older (Selim & Kizilgol, 2017). While

the number of convictions among men from Sweden aged 19-24 years in 2005 adds up to 4.2 percent, the comparable figure was almost half that of men aged 29-34. One common theory for the age range of crime is that young people around the globe are more likely to be unemployed than adults (Farrall, Gray, & Mike Jones, 2020). Economists argue that the income loss generated through unemployment lowers the opportunity cost of engaging in criminal activity (United Nations, 2017; UNODC, 2016). Others have argued that lack of jobs triggers frustration and anger, which in turn may lead to violent behaviour among the youths (Steffensmeier, Lu, & Na, 2020). This has also been assumed that unemployment gives more experiences and space to engage in criminal activity (Boivin, 2018). Assessing the link of youth unemployment and crime is not just important to explain crime's age distribution but is also a key public policy issue when the government is taking its decision because any association would show that investment decisions in labour market programs can have social benefits that go beyond the usual ones (Selim & Kizilgol, 2017).

According to Bandelli (2017), many factors generate crime. In an ecosystem of dysfunctional families, institutional poverty, socially responsible relativism, religious degradation, the inner morality necessary to resist temptation to rape, rob or kill is established. Poverty generally 'causes' crime in the very same way that child porn causes gender and television violence cause child violence. The 'underlying causes' of crime are spiritual, economic, psychological and material. If societies could strengthen family life, raise the living standards among the poor, instill values and characters, and convert the citizenry to a religious view the crime rate would lower. However, these improvements

always take years to change. Experience shows that in these areas government action is singularly ineffective and that concerted efforts are required to reduce these illegal acts.

The majority of the young people who are at fault are poor, which lead them to criminal acts for sustenance (Prior & Paris, 2005). According to Maseko (2009) youth peer pressure and rebellion against parental authority is also a contributor. Erickson (2001) stated that drugs lead the youth to crime. Ojo (2012) argues that unstable families and low literacy levels are major causes of Youth's involvement in criminal acts. Agbor, Taiwo and Smith (2012) argue that young people in Africa have great potential as drivers of economic growth through their involvement in labor markets and consumers. However, a large younger population that is not profitable could also be a burden, which further undermines prospects for growth. Salagaev (2003) agrees that this is primarily the result of several adverse social, economic and family situations.

Kiprono and Karungari (2016) as well as Ndikaru (2011) differentiate between crime that is defined as deviant behaviour that is not perceived to pose a serious threat to group life and is thus tolerated, and deviance as behaviour that is perceived to pose a serious threat to group life and thus requires law enforcement punishment. Crime is a violation of civil procedure for which some government authority imposes formal penalties. In East Africa, the crime scenario is slightly different and has a slightly different component (Oculi & Mwaguri, 2006). Ndikaru (2011) documented a typology of criminal activities, which are related to youth unemployment. This category includes prevalent crimes such as burglary, robbery, robbery, substance abuse, attack, and homicide. Other forms of crime where many youths are responsible for include: armed robbery, robberies, sexual offenses, suicide bombings, abduction, and carjacking. The



major causes of criminal activity were high levels of youth unemployment, poverty and drug extravagance.

According to International Labour Organisation (ILO), unemployment is when people are without work and actively looking for work. The jobless are active jobseekers, but they cannot find the job. The 'inactive' are those not working and are not interested in working. This inactive youth may include those who are in school. In the US, unemployment may be called the unemployment rate defined as the total number of unemployed divided by the number work force. This includes both the employed and the jobless (Couloute, & Kopf, 2018).

Youth unemployment in the 21st century is a serious hurdle. Sub-Saharan Africa is among the most affected regions of youth unemployment. It is estimated to be more than 21% of youths in Africa are unemployed. Youth unemployment in Kenya is a serious issue of development. It is predictable that 64 percent of unemployed persons in Kenya are youth (Kamau, & Wamuthenya, 2021). Only 1.5% of unemployed youths have formal schooling beyond high school, while the rest over 92% do not have coaching in professional or professional skills and most of them can be found in rural Kenya. Odhiambo (2006) argues that inadequate employment and livelihood opportunities in rural areas create a tendency for rural urban migration in order to look for opportunities. The rates of economic growth are growing slowly and thus cannot create productive jobs to absorb the growing workforce of around 500,000 young people per year. Most are young people and only approximately 25% are assimilated, leaving 75% to carry the responsibility of unemployment. In addition, some of those that are absorbed do jobs that do not match their qualifications and specialisation (Andresen, 2012).

Juarez, Urdal, and Vadlamannati, (2022) alluded that in Mexico violent crime in Mexico occurs at a rate that dwarfs the human costs of most contemporary civil wars, and the drug cartels responsible for the violence exercise de facto control over significant geographical territories. In this respect, the Mexican “drug wars” resemble conflicts over the control of rich natural resources in Sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere, blurring the distinction between political and social or criminal violence. Acknowledging organized crime around drug trafficking as a major cause of crime and violence in Mexico, we ask whether the availability of large young male cohorts, or male youth bulges, low education and high youth unemployment ease the recruitment to these organizations and may contribute to explain variance in violent crime rates across Mexican states over time.

In Nigeria, Balogun, (2021) the spate of criminal activities in rural Nigeria poses threat to the livelihood of rural families and food security. The absence of social infrastructures contributed to the rising unemployment that drives criminality in rural Nigeria. The increasing number of unemployed youth (27.3 million in 2010 and 44.2 million in 2018) paved way for crime to thrive in rural areas. The review concluded that the absence of employment opportunities in rural areas fuels the increased criminality that is greatly affecting the livelihoods of rural dwellers in Nigeria and recommended that infrastructural development and provision of employment opportunities in rural communities will contribute to the reduction of rural crime in Nigeria.

Ng’ethe (2018) stated that youth unemployment in Kenya has reached an alarming level of 55%. Various strategies such as Kazi Kwa Vijana and Partnership with the private sector to create employment have been put in place to curb the problem and this has not solved the concern that could impede the potential to reduce crime in the

country. Kamau (2018) adds that unemployment rate for youths aged at least 24years rose from 26.2% to 55%. This figure represents the ever-increasing number of youths who lack formal or informal employment across the globe. The unemployed population will continue to increase due to the growing capacity by the government to accumulate external debt and creating an unfavourable working environment for local and foreign investors with punitive taxes and high interest rates. At least 78% of the economically active youths lack formal jobs in the import-oriented market as opposed to manufacturing sector (Ng'ethe, 2018).

According to Piazza and Piazza (2011), there is currently no direct relationship between unemployment and criminal activities such as radicalization, however, “lack of a stable economic income can result in relative deprivation of jobs, which could potentially lead to support for radical and violent extremist among different groups of youths” (Bhatia & Ghanem, 2017, p. 9). Lack of formally and informally available jobs can make young people vulnerable to extremist groups, particularly when marginalized by their country of origin. It can also fuel hopelessness for financial security, making young people more inclined to accept false financial recompense promises by terrorist organizations. Shetret, Schwartz and Cotter (2013) argue how underemployment and lack of financial stability contributes to insecurity and could lead to violent extremism among people in vulnerable communities. Poverty is argued to be among the key reasons for why youth in Kenya join Al Shabaab and other violent extremist groups where the promise of money attracts many Kenyan Muslims (Jerejian, 2017). After joining, the young people become inculcated and may eventually follow ideology (Amble & Meleagrou-Hitchens, 2014, p. 531).

### **1.3 Statement of the Problem**

The problem of crimes has been linked to high rates of unemployment among the youths across the globe and Wajir County is not an exception to this. While the statistics and criminal patterns in the region are known, the link between the crimes and unemployment in Wajir have not been established by the current studies. In addition, there is little knowledge about the interaction of youth unemployment and the prevalence of criminal activities. Hence, the study sought to bridge this gap by establishing relationship between youth unemployment and crime in Wajir County. This is because.

Wajir is situated in the Northern Eastern Kenya, which is one of the regions facing high unemployment crisis among the youth. The youth unemployment is estimated to be as high as 35% (Omondi, 2018). The crimes have been a recurrent problem in Northern Eastern Kenya amidst effort by the government to secure its urban and remote areas. Wajir relies on pastoralism and limited opportunities for formal employment due to scarce resources and economic crisis at the national level (Munga & Onsomu, 2014). The joblessness among the youth is predisposing them to criminal activities, which is the ultimate source of livelihood for the population. Radicalisation has brought insecurity both in Wajir County and Kenya as some youths have resorted to join terror groups like Al Shabaab (Botha, 2014). Politicians are taking advantage of the unemployed youths in Wajir to stir ethnicity between different clans. These Youths later form criminal gangs that end up disturbing residents of Wajir County. Hence, this study sought to answer the following question: What is the relationship between youth unemployment and crime in Wajir County? It is in light of these that the study sought to examine the existing relationship between youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir County, in

order to benefit the national and county government to employ mechanisms possible to curb security incidents in the county and more so finding a better solution to mitigate existing risks.

#### **1.4 Purpose of the Study**

This study intended to establish the relationship between youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir. The study examined the types of the criminal activities that are undertaken by youth in Wajir County. It also explored the causes of these criminal activities. There is a conception that different geographical locations may have specific crime patterns and prevalence. It sought to establish the strategies being adopted by stakeholders to mitigate crime and whether that is related to the prevalence of crime. The purpose of the study was to understand the phenomenon of unemployment and how these may be related with criminal activities within Wajir County.

#### **1.5 Objectives of the Study**

The general objective of the study was to examine the relationship between youth unemployment and crime in Wajir County and the specific objectives were to:

1. Determine the relationship between the typology of youth-related crimes and crime prevalence in Wajir County
2. Establish the relationship between socio-economic perspectives of youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir County.
3. Examine the relationship between government policies on youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County.
4. Establish the relationship between strategies used in crime prevention and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County.

## **1.6 Research Questions**

1. Does the typology of youth unemployment have a significant influence on crime prevalence in Wajir County?
2. Do the socio-economic determinants of youth unemployment have a significant influence on prevalence of crime in Wajir County?
3. To what extent do government policies influence crime prevalence in Wajir County, Kenya?
4. To find out the coping strategies influence crime prevalence in Wajir County, Kenya?

## **1.7 Significance of the Study**

Knowledge of youth unemployment and crime in Wajir County provides information on the social-economic and policy costs of youth unemployment and crime in policy makers, government agencies, private sector partners and development partners. This may help in improving the current youth situation; generate jobs and labour market inclusive opportunities. The study will help to understand the relationship between unemployment and crime from an academic point of view, if any, and will help politicians to find desirable policies that are targeted at countries that are concerned about unemployment. The study will also contribute to the literature available and act as the champion for the unemployed in Wajir. Finally, this study's findings and conclusions can be used as a reference for future research on employment. The report will contribute to the current literature on unemployment in Wajir and provide stakeholders with information on this vice, both public and private, to help them plan how to deal with unemployment.

### **1.8 Scope of the Study**

The purpose of the study was to examine the relationship between youth unemployment and the crime rate among the youth in Wajir County, Kenya. Contextually, the study was based in Wajir County with the unit of analysis being the youth in the County. The choice of Wajir County is justified because the area has been affected by criminal insurgence such as radicalization and the Al Shabaab militia group. Wajir County is the largest County in North Eastern region making it a suitable case to understand matters related to crime prevalence in the entire region. The unit of observation was based on the police officers in the County. Conceptually, the study focused on the effect of youth education attainment, work experience and youth employment policy on the crime rate among the youths in Wajir County, Kenya. The study focused on youths aged 18 to 35 years who gained formal or informal skills in readiness for employment within or outside Wajir.

### **1.9 Delimitations of the Study**

The study endeavoured to undertake purposive and conscious actions to simplify the management of the research. The research focused on the availability of information from local youth and security officials. The study could involve other non-governmental organizations and demographic factions but was limited to the youths who are accessible to the researcher. Research findings may not be generalized to other counties but varied economic conditions and rates of criminal activities. The study covered the unemployment and crime rates and its variables, including limited job creation, marginalization, and ineffective youth unemployment laws. Although there are other

causes of crime prevalence, the study addressed the matter from the perspective of youth unemployment.

#### **1.10 Limitations of the Study**

The study had certain limitations. The dispersed population of Wajir County impeded maximum data collection. Some of the respondents in the County administration and communities were reluctant to respond to the questions exhaustively such that they conceal key information for the study due to the sensitive nature of crime related activities. The researchers overcame this through confidential information and the study purpose. The other challenge that impeded data collection was extreme hot weather conditions of Wajir County. The researcher overcame this challenge by undertaking data collection exercise in the morning hours before temperatures become unbearable.

#### **1.11 Assumptions of the Study**

Kurt (2011) posits those assumptions are basic occurrence and without their existence, the research problem cannot exist. This study assumed that the respondents would co-operate and provide reliable information that was necessary in arriving at accurate findings. In addition, the questionnaires and interview schedules used in this study would enable the researcher to attain the objectives of the study. Further, the study assumed that the participants were available when required to participate in the study.

#### **1.12 Theoretical Framework**

The study is premised on rational choice. The fundamental premise of the theory of rational choice is that aggregate social behaviour results from the behaviour of individual actors, who make their decisions. This method was designed by Cornish and Clarke (1986) to assist in thinking about situational crime prevention. The theory also

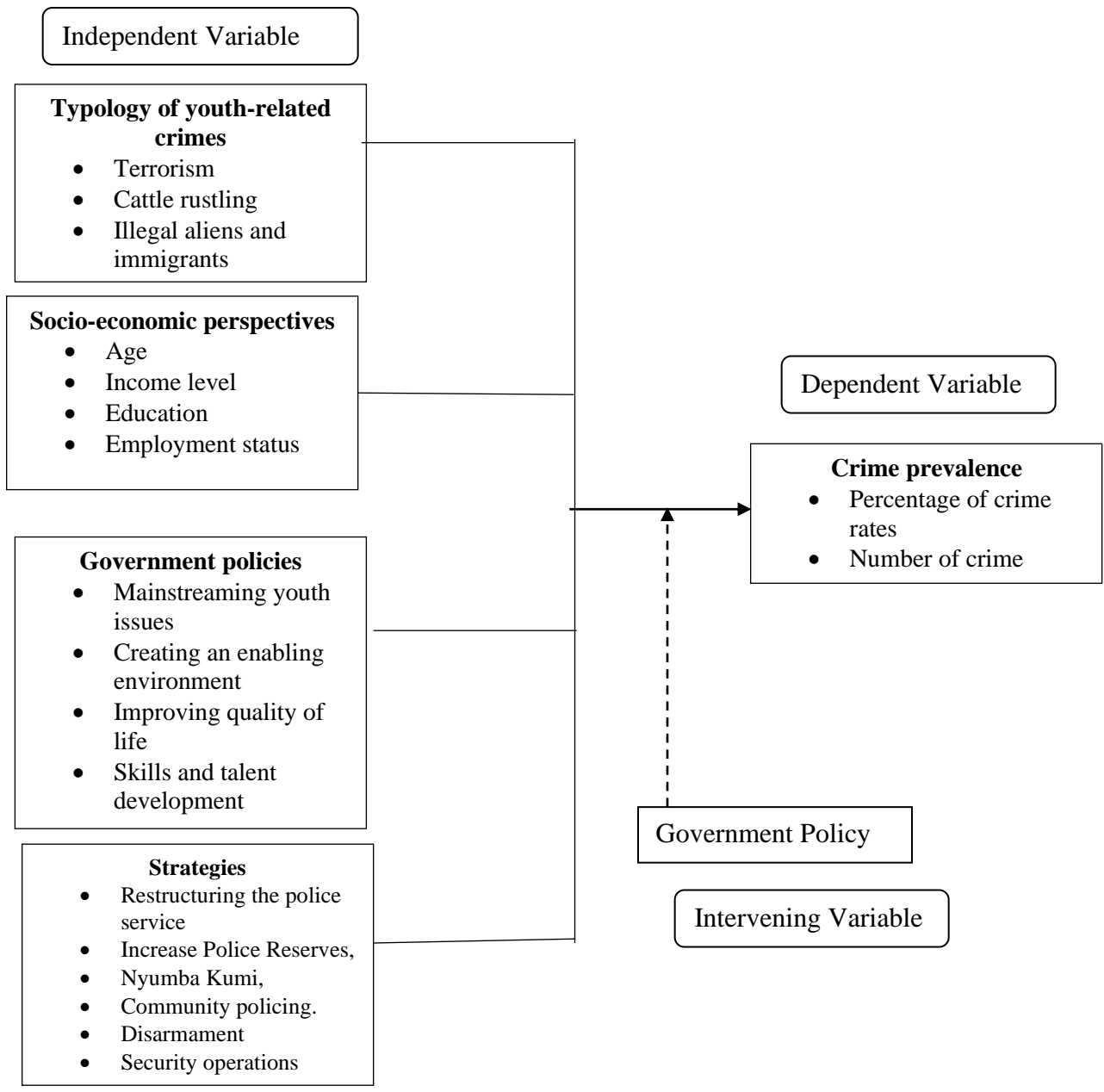


focuses on the determinants of the individual choices. According to the theory, individuals enter criminal activities as a matter of choice that they make as a result of rational consideration. Rational choice is defined as the process of determining which options are available and then selecting the recommended as per a coherent criterion. Rational theory states that an individual will consider the available options in order of preference and choose the options that appeal more to their realization of their goals. In terms of criminal behaviour, the choice to engage in criminal activities is made with full realization of the ensuing consequences. A person will engage in a criminal act after assessing the risks, resentment, sympathy, envy, loyalty, love, and a sense of fairness. Given the prevailing high levels of unemployment, young people weigh the alternatives available to gain satisfaction and earn economic benefits accruing for the choices they make. Although the rational theory offers a substantive explanation relating to the constructs of the study, it is inadequate in the sense that the youth engagement in criminal activities is not entirely a matter of rational choice. There are other factors that come into play. It is for this reason that the second theory was adopted to augment the shortcomings of the rational choice theory.

The second theory that lends relevance to this study is the utility theory of crime (Stover & Brown, 1975). This theory postulates that an individual maximizes utility subject to several constraints amongst which is time. In other words, there is limited time between various legal and illegal activities for an employee. Spending more time in criminal behaviour requires that less time is spent on lawful behaviour which causes a reduction in the total gains from lawful pursuits. This is considered the opportunity cost of crime. Since individuals have to choose between the lawful activities and criminal

behaviour, the opportunity cost must be considered in making the rational choice. Due to unemployment, the youthful population have lost the opportunity to earn a living in lawful employment and must spend time idling. When they consider the opportunity cost of engaging in crime that is the time they spend idling around, they would rather engage in criminal activities

**Conceptual Framework: Depicting relationship between unemployment and crime prevalence**



**Figure 1. 1: Relationship between youth unemployment and crime prevalence**

The study investigated the concepts of youth unemployment by addressing the interaction between the independent variables and the dependent variable. The independent variables are the typology of youth related crime, socio-economic perspectives of youth unemployment, government policies towards youth unemployment and the strategies used to combat crime. Youth engage in various types of criminal activities that are related to the age. As youth enter into adolescence, there is a tendency to engage in undesired activities that are of criminal nature. For instance, young people are vulnerable to criminal activities such as radicalism and terrorism. Adolescents are frequently engaged in petty crimes such as muggings, pickpocketing which make the prevalence of such activities highly correlated to the age factor. Socio-economic factors such as income and education levels affect the prevalence of crime. Young people who earn a low level of income and have a lower level of education are more likely to engage in crime than their counterparts from the high-income levels are.

The government has developed several policies to mitigate the causes of youth unemployment that is related to criminal prevalence. These policies include creating an enabling environment for youth to engage in social economic activities and gainful employment. Improving the quality of youth and developing their talents in various fields contributes significantly to lowering the prevalence of crime amongst youth. It is also clear that in order to combat crime, several strategies have been put in place. These strategies include; community policing, disarming criminal gangs and increasing the number of police reserves. All these activities affect the prevalence of criminal activities that forms the rationale for conducting this study.

### **1.13 Chapter Summary**

This chapter gives the introduction of the study including background, statement of problem, objectives, research questions, significance, scope, delimitations, limitations, assumptions, theoretical and conceptual framework. Chapter three covers methodology, chapter four covers findings while chapter five covers summary of findings, conclusions and recommendations. The next chapter (chapter two) covers literature review.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents a review of previous works that have been done by various scholars, authors, researchers with expertise in the domain of criminology studies. The objective of the review is to explore the various studies relating to youth unemployment and crime prevalence. In this Literature review, the research seeks to examine the extant knowledge base relating to the typology of crime, the socio-economic determinants of criminal activities, the government policies in relation to crime management and the strategies used to prevent crime. The systematic, critical review is conducted along the research objectives with a view to establishing the gaps in knowledge that are pertinent to the overall objective of this study.

#### **2.2 Review of the Literature**

The literature reviewed reveals some conceptual, theoretical and methodological gaps in the studies. There is a dearth of literature, which is specific to the regional context and Wajir in particular. The following sections present a systematic review of empirical and theoretical literature.

##### ***2.2.1 Typology of Youth Related Crimes and Crime Prevalence.***

Yusof, Kaur, Sani, and Hashim, (2019) conducted a qualitative expert interview approach towards understanding religious extremism among Malaysian youth. Moreover, Religious extremism among Muslim youth is an emergent challenge and a variety of factors contribute towards its rise. However, few studies have explored this phenomenon in predominantly Muslim countries. Using expert interview approach, this study explored factors that provoke Malaysian youth into joining religious extremist groups and

discussed findings from a social ecological theory perspective. Inductive thematic analysis guided by socioecological theory was employed to analyze the data. Factors identified were Islamic Ideology-choice & Interpretation, Ummah and Practicality, and Charismatic leadership. The investigation through the social-ecological lens suggests that these causes mainly interacted at the macro-ecological and community-levels to influence the behavior of Malaysian youths. Keywords: Violence, Religion, Positive Youth Development, Adolescent, Qualitative Methods, Expert Interview.

Haruna and Yaya, (2022) conducted a study on the existing typology of youths related crimes and the causes of cattle rustling in Northern Nigeria. Furthermore, the cattle rustling refers to the act of stealing cattle, which usually occurs in the bush or in a rural community. This act is mostly perpetuated by Fulani headers. This act causes serious bloodshed and loss of lives in some situations. Cattle rustling have recently appeared to be one of the major internal security concerns in Nigeria, with the northern region serving as the epicenter. The research design used in this study was cross-sectional survey method. Both primary and secondary data were used. The findings of the study revealed that there are numerous factors responsible for the occurrences and spate of cattle rustling in Northern Nigeria. Unemployment, poverty, illiteracy, the desire to get rich quickly, poor parenting, moral decadence, communal conflict, greed, envy, and drug addiction are the major factors. The study recommended that education should be made available to everyone. Governments at all levels should address the issue of drug addiction and unemployment. Moral conduct should be inculcated, in children both at home and community level. Victims of cattle rustling should be assisted in order to mitigate the debilitating effects of cattle rustling on them.

Said, (2020) examined a study on the realization on the typology of youth related crimes and cattle rustling mitigation strategies among pastoral communities; a case of Loima Sub-County in Turkana County. Moreover, the study established that Pastoralism is an activity of raising herds of animals for economic production that is done mostly in the Northern parts of Kenya and is within the arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs). The communities who live there have a long history of conflicts that revolves around natural resources like water, pasture and land. The limited resources and availability of arms has led to raiding which has become violent in the recent years. As such the study sought to understand the effectiveness of cattle rustling mitigation strategies among pastoral communities, a case of Loima Sub County in Turkana County. The study was guided by the following objectives: to assess the frequency of cattle rustling in Loima Sub County over the past five years; to determine the values attached to cattle rustling by the Turkana and Pokot communities; to assess the role of stakeholders in mitigating cattle rustling and to assess the effectiveness of cattle rustling mitigation efforts put in place over the past five years. The study adopted a descriptive survey with a study population comprising of 27 Key Informants and 112 members of the youth through focus group discussions. The data was analyzed using descriptive statistics and results presented in form of paragraphs, frequency tables, charts, graphs and narratives. The key findings of the study are that poverty is one of the reasons as to why conflict persisted in Loima Sub County. It was further established that changes in cultural settings which had been caused by a multiple of factors affecting these pastoralists had contributed to the prolonged and continued conflict.



### ***2.2.1.1 Terrorism***

Terrorism in Kenya has largely assumed the form of Islamist extremism which have been existing since 1970s (Botha, 2014). After this intervention, the Al Shabaab increased their attacks in Kenya mainly targeting restaurants, public spaces and churches. Later they spread they modus operandi to include targeted attacks at institutions of learning and public transport vehicles. The earliest significant indicators of the proliferating threat of extremism in East Africa after independence were recorded on the 7 August 1998. During this event which al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for attacks on US embassies in Nairobi, Kenya, and Dar es salaam, Tanzania. The attacks are viewed as targeting the US interests in Africa. However, since then national and regional extremism has expanded to target local people as well. The roots of Al Shabaab lie in Somalia, but Al Shabaab has increased its acceptance of al-Qaeda and Al Shabaab philosophy throughout the wider region including Kenya. The group has used suicide attacks as their modus operandi as was witnessed in the 11 July 2010 and 21 September 2013 attacks in Kampala and Nairobi respectively (Kutto, 2020).

Al Shabaab has been involved in minor assaults, targeting improvised explosives and hand grenade attacks by Kenyans. Kenyan nationals have been involved in recruiting young people to join the organization after being radicalized. These individuals left their countries to fight in Somalia and some have returned to conduct attacks on Kenya soil as recently witnessed in the Dusit D2 Hotel attack in Nairobi in 2019. While Al Shabaab has established a foothold in Nairobi and even recruited members from western Kenya, northern Kenya in particular requires attention (Botha, 2014). Local conditions have led to growing frustrations that have allowed Al Shabaab to reinforce its foothold in Kenya.

These conditions include economic disparities, unemployment and radicalization. Radicalization has played a key role in making youth join the Al Shabaab terror group. Young people have joined the group as a result of peer influences (Botha, 2014). Another reason that young people who are predominantly Muslim join the group is that Muslims feel discriminated against for instance when applying for passports (Botha, 2014)

On 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019 several people including Police officers died when an improvised Explosive Device (IED) planted by Al Shabaab Militants went off at Konton area in Wajir County. As per Chome (2016, p. 5), Al Shabaab has “been able to exploit a combination of political realities, socioeconomic factors, and individual characteristics that render many people and youth in particular vulnerable for recruitment.” Al Shabaab has' relied on local assistance and support when carrying out attacks in Kenya' after establishing sleeper cells through radicalization of primarily Kenyan youth (Botha, 2013, p. 6). The rise in terrorist attacks carried out by local Al Shabaab members in Kenya is a direct consequence of the rapidly increasing threat of physical violence extremism (Getachew, 2016).

#### ***2.2.1.2 Organized Crime***

Reports that the rate of unemployment for youths in Mexico is rising at 8 million are bad news for safety, as this group constitutes the large proportion of combatants and perpetrators of the narcotics war in Mexico (Wang, Lin, Su, & Kuo, 2020). According to Ezeh (2017), The increase in trafficking in cocaine made the Sahara far more lucrative. In particular, unemployed young people have been keen to make dangerous travel trafficking in cocaine. Mali is not isolated. A long line of young people throughout

western Africa are prepared to risk trafficking small amounts of cocaine in Europe, with many courier being detained at coastal and European airports (Ezeh, 2017).

Ethnic conflicts fueled by political leaders' ethnic incitement continue to be a source of serious conflict, as seen in Mandera, Wajir, and Isiolo, due to competition for scarce resources, primarily land, pasture, and water. Other sources of conflict in the region include competition for control and access to natural resources, erosion of customary institutions, ethnocentrism, and land demarcation. The scuffles led to an increase in 45 deaths, 30 injuries, and property destruction, including torching of houses, displacing residents in the areas affected (Njoka, 2011).

#### ***2.2.1.3 Burglary***

Burglary is a criminal act in which offenders enter another person's residence every day in order to commit crimes such as robbery and damage of homes (Terranova, Bevilacqua, Zen, & Montisci, 2017). This may be continued in the victim's inclusion or exclusion. Burglary is a personal crime form. Terranova,*et al.*, (2017) Noted, in addition to physical injury to a victim, property crimes are such as burglary, theft and pick-pocketing where economic harm is done to the victim.

#### ***2.2.1.4 Cattle rustling***

Cattle rustling continue to be a security threat in northern part of the Kenya leading to fatalities and displacing families. Cattle rustling among Wajir, Mandera and Garissa were seen as a result of scarce resources like pasture, water and soil. Additional factors include border disputes, political interference and the fight for supremacy. During the period under review (2016-2018), 84 cases of cattle rustling and 192 stock theft cases

were reported. A total of 261 livestock were raided but none were recovered whereby one person was injured (Kimani, & Masiga, 2020).

#### ***2.2.1.5 Smuggling of Contraband goods***

Contraband trafficking has rampantly crossed Kenya-Somalia, creating many "untouchable" millionaires, mainly traders for Kenia-Somalia. The flooding of foreign smuggling markets including food, petroleum and alcohol products from neighboring countries in the country resulted in severe government revenues loss. Police officers carried and seized the goods together with other law enforcement agencies (Miller, 2018).

#### ***2.2.1.6 Drug Trafficking***

Drug trafficking is a global phenomenon, affecting virtually all countries around the world as beginnings, transportation or destination. Because of its strategic location in the region, Kenya remains a major transit hub for drugs. Kenya has been used as an operational base by international drug syndicates mainly from West Africa, Europe and Asia (Ogunniyi, & Akpu, 2019). Drugs have become a growing threat for Kenyan society and abuse among students and young people is prevalent. Drug trafficking proceeds also facilitate money laundering and bankrolling other crimes, including terrorism (Mbiri, 2017).

### ***2.3. Socio-economic Perspective on Crime Prevalence.***

The choice to engage in criminal activities is a rational decision that is determined by factors such as mental; illness or bad attitudes (Buonanno, 2003). There are rational agents that motivate criminals make an economic choice to engage in criminal activities. Criminal activities are closely related to poverty, social exclusion, wage and income inequalities, socio-cultural background, family, the level of education

and other variables that increase an individual's propensity to engage in crime. This include cultural characteristics, the age and gender of the individual (Buonanno, 2003). People engage in crime because of the financial and other rewards that come from crime in comparison to engaging in legal employment or business activities. Other variables that may be considered before engaging in crime include the possibility of being apprehended and getting convicted or other forms of punishment (Buonanno, 2003; Selim & Kizilgol, 2017).

Studies indicate that young people aged between 18 and 28 years are more prone to violence than the other ages of the population. This may be due to the fact that many young people particularly in Africa have been largely unemployed and marginalized in the decision making process. For those who are employed, the majority earns very low incomes and as such, they may expect to lose relatively low earning by engaging in criminal activities and acquiring criminal records. On the other hand, the higher the expected income from criminal activities, the higher the propensity to engage in criminal activities, especially against property (Rocque et al., 2016). Some people become lawbreakers as a result of the financial and other benefits of crime as opposed to legal work. Reducing crime may be done by reducing the benefits of crime or increasing the likelihood of being caught or the cost of retribution dependent on being caught. Similarly, increasing the income through legal activities and enhancing legislative compliance through schooling would limit the number of people ready to conduct illegal activity (Buonanno, 2003).

The current population education, that can evaluate anticipated rewards for both legal and criminal activities, is another important factor linked to the effects of economic

conditions on crime. Education may also have a "civilization" effect, which tends to lower the incidence of crime. The presence of police, convictions, and the severity of punishment on the level of criminal activity has a negative effect on crime rates. (Matsueda, 2017) found out that criminality is dependent upon social structure and social networks within a given locality while Warr (2002) finds that influence of peers is also important aspect. Thus, a person's position in society factors that influence his or her criminal conduct. However, unemployment is all driven by these factors, because the power of social bonds, participation the level of the social community, and the positive self-image and social behaviour of the peers are, at least in part, determined by the extent and severity of their deprivation, underemployment and social isolation.

Chen and Zhong, (2021) examined a study on socio-economic perspectives and crime prevalence in Hong Kong in the last three decades. Although the recent crime drop in Western societies has rejuvenated crime trend studies, little is known about the crime trends and the corresponding explanations in the East. This study aims to fill the gaps by examining different types of offenses in Hong Kong between 1976 and 2017. Specifically, this study tests and evaluates major macro-level theoretical approaches explaining crime trends, including institutional anomie theory, routine activities theory, and deterrence theory. Using Error Correction Models, our analyses reveal that the strengths of different social institutions are negatively associated with crime rates, showing strong support to institutional anomie theory. The results also partially support routine activities theory by demonstrating that levels of economic development are negatively associated with both violent and property crime rates, and the number of mobile cellular subscriptions is negatively related to homicide rates. Deterrence

explanations are mainly supported for property crime. These findings provide theoretical insights on the etiology of crime and also yield important policy suggestions on how to sustain the observed decline in crime rates in modern societies.

Valente and Vacchiano, (2021) did a study on the existence of socio-economic perspectives as a determinants of fear of crime in Argentina and Brazil; a cross country comparison of Non-Criminal and Environmental factors affecting insecurity. Furthermore, it was evident that Argentina and Brazil report the highest incidence of the fear of crime across Latin America as a result of challenges experienced in the economy. Although the spread of crime and victimization may explain these trends initially, the main focus of the study was to establish the significance of non-criminal factors in explaining the fear of crime, such as socio-economic vulnerability, educational level and trust in people and institutions, as well as exposure to violence at one's place of residence. The study opted for a subset of data from the 2017 edition of the *Latinobarómetro* survey in which the target population was ( $n = 2400$ ). Data analysis was done via a regression analysis, which eluded that the fear of crime was radically different between the two countries. In Argentina, as in certain European countries, people's fears of crime are positively associated with socio-economic vulnerability and in turn negatively associated with state-driven violence. The latter has a protective effect on Argentinians' feelings of insecurity, while in Brazil the fear of crime is largely a consequence of previous victimization and a general distrust in other people. Despite this key difference, the results shed light on the problem of social cohesion in both countries, suggesting that the fear of crime is a social rather than criminal issue.

Ajide, (2019) conducted a study on the socio-economic perspectives on crime rates in Nigeria. The study examined the effect of institutional quality and misery index on crime rate in Nigeria. Data sourced for the period of 1986–2016 from the Nigerian Police Force, National Bureau of Statistics, International Country Risk Guide (ICRG) and World Bank Development Indicators are employed. The study applied the ARDL approach to co-integration in estimating the model built for the study. The results show that there is a long-run relationship among the variables. It further revealed that institutional quality reduces crime rate significantly in the short run while economic misery increases the level of crime in Nigeria. These results imply that gradual improvements in institutional arrangements within democratic administrations would further provide a more effective and efficient peaceful means for settling disputes and re-alignments of socio-economic inequalities, which seem to be the main causes of criminal activities in Nigeria.

Genda, (2021) examined a study on the socio-economic implications of protracted refugees on the constant increase in crime in Nyarugusu Refugee Camp in Kigoma Region. Moreover, the study noted that socio-economic implications of protracted refugees on peace and security in Tanzania as informed by the experiences unveiled from a study conducted at Nyarugusu Refugee Camp in Kigoma Region. The study adopted descriptive research design of a sample of 79 respondents obtained through systematic and purposive sampling. The sample was drawn from refugees in Nyarugusu Camp, community members, refugee's leaders, UNHCR personnel and local government authority leaders. Data was collected through questionnaires, in-depth interviews, focus group discussions and observation. Data was analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively.



Quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive statistics, while qualitative data was analyzed using content analysis. The findings revealed that refugees in Tanzania have been staying in camps for many years, thus creating threat and insecurity to the host community. The host community also faces parallel impacts in relation to security of their properties, disharmony, immoral behavior such as rape, armed robbery, congestion in social services; and loss of land without direct compensation. Also, the host communities were affected in their daily activities such as agriculture and businesses, as well as access to social services which they had to share with refugees. The study recommends that the national refugee policy document be reviewed to lessen its implementation challenges and accommodate all categories of refugees; the government plan ahead possible refugee influx and measures to attend them; the government and development partners carry more research on refugees' life in camps to find out possible solutions to refugees case load; and subsequently devise durable solutions to the problem of prolonged refugees in the country.

Osundwa, (2021) conducted a study on the socio-economic determinants of youth driven criminal activities in Kenya; a case study of Lamu West-Sub County. Furthermore, the study emphasized on the relationship between crime and socioeconomic indicators varies by region and by country. In Kenya, socioeconomic indicators of youth crime are meagerly studied; however, some studies focus solely on economic indicators of crime, leaving out the deterrent variable. The aim of this study was to discover the socioeconomic determinants of youth-driven criminal activity in Lamu County, Kenya. The study's goals were to: assess the socioeconomic factors that motivate youth participation in criminal activities in Lamu West Sub-County, Lamu County, Kenya;

determine the nature of youth-driven criminal activities motivated by socioeconomic factors in Lamu West Sub-County, Lamu County, Kenya; examine the socioeconomic strategies adopted by the local community that contribute to the reduction of youth-driven criminal activities in Lamu West Sub-County, Lamu County, Kenya and; determine whether the existing legal and policy framework is supporting reduction of youth driven criminal activities within Lamu West Sub-County, Kenya. The differential association theory, frustration-aggression theory, and Maslow's needs theory were used in the research. Local community members (Nyumba Kumi members), chiefs/sub-chiefs, security forces/top police personnel, business people, youth leaders, and members of criminal groups were among the 605 respondents in this descriptive research design. A total of 181 people were polled for the study. Local residents, businesspeople, and youth leaders were sampled using a stratified random sampling technique. Snowball sampling was used to sample members of criminal gangs, while purposive sampling was used to sample security personnel/top police officers, and area chiefs/sub-chiefs. Questionnaires and main informant interviews were used to collect data from the area. To pretest the questionnaire, a pilot test was conducted with 10% of the respondents in Kilifi Sub-County. For subsequent descriptive analytics, quantitative data was sorted, cleaned, coded, and analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 23 and presented using maps, statistics, tables, frequencies, and percentages.

#### **2.4      *Government Policies on Crime Prevalence.***

Sahid, Amirullah, Rahman, Senaman, and Yusriadi, (2020) conducted a study on the role of the government in offering additional support to the local governments in Makassar City in dealing with crime. Moreover, the role of the government in assisting

the implementation of local government, this study uses a qualitative evaluative research design with a descriptive approach. The research design adopted considered evaluating the application of Regional Regulation No. 23 of 2014 concerning the Regional Government. The State of Indonesia has regulated the maximization of public services through Law Number 25 of 2009 concerning Public Services. The community empowerment approach undoubtedly expected to provide a role for individuals not as objects but as actors or actors who determine their own lives. The purpose of excellent service is to provide services to meet and satisfy the community and provide a focus of service to customers. The approach of community empowerment centered on humans by underlying the insight of local resource management, a planning mechanism that emphasizes social learning technology and program formulation strategies, the standard component of public services designed to provide the broadest possible access to information to the public so that the public facilitated to reach essential services that lead to the welfare of the community.

Globally, the decline in employment has hit the youth more than other cohorts, with youth being particularly hit in developing countries (Porter, *et al.*, 2021). Unemployment among young people is still a major problem, making young people vulnerable to violence and social unrest. Literature has established youth unemployment is significantly related to crime (Adam-Troian, Tecmen, & Kaya, 2021). Youth unemployment is a critical incidental factor for youth participation in armed groups, political violence, and overall crime. Though there are poor youths who do not engage in criminal activities, most young people who lack jobs have a tendency of engaging in criminal violence, as well as financially motivated offenses. This trend is often more

pronounced in countries that have a high proportion of young people. Unemployment creates adverse provocations from social interactions since an individual is free from social places like workplaces and does not get moral judgment from colleague's thereby promoting idleness (Omboi, 2020).

Okoye and Ozure, (2020) examined a study on the effect of crime related activities on the performance of government entities in Nigeria. This study examines the effect of economic crime control on the performance of government entities in Nigeria. The objectives are to ascertain whether non- disclosure of economic crime has effect on the performance of government entities. Data were collected through primary sources from the administration of questionnaire to some selected ministries, parastatals and agencies of government in the south- south, Nigeria The data were analyzed using Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient and the t-test. Our findings revealed that economic crime control has positive effect on the performances of government entities and also, non-disclosure of economic crime has effect on these government entities. Based on the findings, it is recommended that government needs to put in place a progressive legal and institutional framework that will prescribe punishment for officers that will be found wanting in economic crime related issues, and the monitoring and evaluation of their performances should be carried out on regular basis, at least twice in a year for all government entities.

Shauri and Obeka, (2018) conducted a study on the government initiatives towards strengthening crime reporting and mitigation of challenges of insecurity in Kilifi County, Kenya. Insecurity is emerging as a critical challenge of development in the coast of Kenya. The problem is affecting all the six counties in different manifestations and

magnitude. In fact, the socioeconomics of the coast region have suffered immensely. Importantly, the region's main economic mainstay is tourism, which has been brought down by insecurity. The challenges of insecurity in the region range from the traditional petty crimes, Gender Based Violence, violence caused by a strong belief in witchcraft pitying the elderly to emergent criminal gangs, radicalization and recruitment into Violent Extremist Organizations (VEOs). However, security is a broad concept that requires a multistakeholder approach in its mitigation. It is this realization that a study was mooted to investigate crime-reporting, challenges facing the police in maintaining law and order in the region, the role of the youth/community in ensuring security thrives in the region, especially in Kilifi County. To achieve this objective, the study adopted survey research design. Purposive sampling was adopted to select Kilifi County based on expert knowledge on the insecurity dynamics in the region, with the county representing some semblance of security normalcy in the region. The study selected 120 at-risk youth stratified in layers of 30 in a disproportionate way, with 30 youth selected from Malindi, 30 Magarini, and 30 from Kilifi North. The study included an additional 30 youth from Kilifi South as a control group. Moreover, purposive and convenient sampling techniques were also employed to select frontline security officers. The officers were identified and formed three Focus Group Discussions, one in each Sub-county. Further, three (3) Key Informants Interviews (KIIs) with senior National Government security representatives were conducted to supplement primary data collected by way of interview schedules. The collected data was analyzed appropriately, with quantitative data handled by the use of the Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS), while qualitative data analyzed by classifying information into thematic areas based on the objectives of the study.

### **2.4.1 *Crime and socio-economic activities***

At an instinctive level, crime and socio-economic fluctuation are significant linked. In a fall, revenue decreases, poverty and unemployment increase, leading to social isolation as well as malnourishment, which leads to anxiety and pressure (Gupta, 2017). These create a fragile social fabric that increases crime. Furthermore, a sharp change in revenue and wealth can motivate and offer increasing opportunities for criminal behaviour. The correlation between different types of crime rates and the business cycle is significantly negative. A lot of literature has been written about the relationship between crime and business cycle, although many research in economics has often shown that the positive association between unemployment and crime is at best weak and that results often do not have an impact on crime (Buonanno, 2003).

Becker (1968) and Ehrlich (1973, 1975) found that there is a standard theoretical framework underpinning the crime-unemployment relationship in economics. Generally, these approaches model the provision of serious crimes based on two key factors. The first concerns the likelihood of being caught and the threat of punishment if found guilty. If this increases, people are expected to be less likely to attempt to commit a crime. The second question is the preferred choice of the person for criminal behaviour. Although direct measurement is difficult, the other ideal solution to crime, namely labour market participation, is an important aspect of this factor. If wages and working conditions are high, the chance of engaging in criminal activities is lower. Conversely, if substantial unemployment exists, there are low opportunities to spend time in crime and the crime rate should be higher. This model presupposes that the rate of criminal prevalence is associated or related to the level of economic activities taking place within the country.

A number of economists use this theory as their basic factor to empirically identify the link between unemployment and crime. Early literature reviews by Tarling (1982), Chiricos (1987), Freeman (1983) and Box (1987) emphasized that the causal link between unemployment and crime seems only to be moderately positive. This conclusion was further confirmed later by Freeman (1992, 1995, and 1999) who discovered that the link between crime and unemployment is at best tenuous. Choe (2008) has found no statistically important effect of unemployment on crime rates based on a 1995-2004 US state-level dataset, in the investigation into the effects of inequity on crime. Lin (2008) has determined that the positive association between unemployment and crime has been affirmed. Gould et al. (2002) also revealed that both wage rates and unemployment are linked to crime, and yet that over the last few decades, wages play a bigger role in crime trends.

Even though most of the research is focused on the economic discipline of crime and unemployment relations, crime discourse and other social sciences show other forms of unemployment. Ha and Andresen (2017) have proposed a theoretical framework to suggest that the aggregate rate of unemployment can affect crime by increasing the levels of criminal motivation and by affecting the availability and vulnerability of criminal targets, and therefore the numbers of criminal prospects. Moreover, other sociologists' emphasis on public exclusion's psychological impact on people's behaviour. Thus, (Khan et al., 2015) and (Botha, 2014) recommend that the power of social bonds can demonstrate involvement in illegal activity and also that individuals can be imprisoned in the criminal justice cycle because the criminal justice system deliberately stigmatizes them if they are caught and punished. (Khan et al., 2015) demonstrates that crime levels positively

correlated with income inequality and extreme poverty. Furthermore, (Matsueda, 2017; Robinson, 2017) proposes that consumer feelings have a substantial impact on the robbery and property crime rates and finds it to have a major impact on crime in the 1990s.

#### ***2.4.2 Crime and Unemployment***

Jerejian (2017) provided many valuable insights in crime-unemployment theoretical and empirical investigations. It provides several explications on the fragility of the relationship between crime and unemployment primarily by highlighting the statistical methods used in literature. Andresen (2012), for example, uses a connectivity approach that recognizes the strong partnership between crime and underemployment. Bhatia and Ghanem (2017) subsequently suggested the use of natural experiments and diagrammed panel estimates which highlight a common topic in literature, using panel databases to predict the association between unemployment and crime. Mocan and Bali (2010) utilised state-level data on property crime rate unemployment effects. Similarly, Arvanities and DeFina (2006) found that economic downturns affect property crimes and robbery. Philips and Land (2012) have established a strong and coherent pattern of unemployment through both possible chance and motivational effects on burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft crime. Surprisingly, Andresen (2012) finds inspiration to be important in the long run while opportunity to be important in the short term. A quasi-experimental analysis by Bushway, Cook and Phillips (2012) using data from 13 business cycles examines the effects of short-term unemployment fluctuations on crime, which determined that economic contraction leads to increased rates of burglary and theft.



The preceding discussion raises some of the unsettled questions or controversies that warrant this study. The discussion has presented the views that crime and unemployment are related. Different scholars such as Jerejian (2017) and Andresen (2012) have established varying degrees of correlation between unemployment and criminal activities. While this is true there are divergent opinions regarding the nature of criminal activities that are related to the unemployment situation that exist. While some scholars have established relationship between criminal activities and the unemployment, others have not found any significant relationships. These divergent views and perspectives provide the justification for further inquiry into the nature of the relationship between unemployment and criminal activities. It provides the basis for conducting this study in Wajir County. The County provides a different context for exploring the issue that is useful in offering an external perspective to the ongoing debates about crime prevalence and economic activities.

#### ***2.4.3 Youth Empowerment and Mainstreaming Policy***

According to Camarinhas (2019), youth mainstreaming is a two-fold strategy for youth development. Encouraged by gender mainstreaming expertise, it involves ensuring that young people are reflected in policy and project phases in different areas and ensuring that specific youth initiatives are addressed. These combine to create a youth-responsive strategy. By reflecting, acknowledging, being responsive to and responding to the young people's problems, mainstreaming is intended both to examine the impact on young women and men of a policy/project and to involve young men and women in making decisions and/or initiatives that actually impact them. Youth advocates point out

is that young people are an underprivileged society and underrepresented among the world's poor and unemployed (Camarinhas, 2019).

While discussing the educational development agenda of the government in the recent years, (Mackatiani, Imbovah, Imbova, & Gakungai, 2016), highlight some of the government agendas such as mainstreaming young people in all its programs to address youth problems effectively, particularly unemployment. Although there is a big discussion as to whether possessing a Youth Ministry would be better than mainstreaming youth questions, it is widely recognized that effective implementation is the success of both approaches. As the government has chosen to integrate youth issues, it is crucial to ensure that effective mechanisms are designed to protect the interests of young people. Most importantly, to avoid ad hoc, non-sustainable and uneven intervention, the Government should develop and ensure implementation of a comprehensive youth employment policy.

#### ***2.4.4 Creating an enabling environment that helps youth access the market***

The opportunities offered to young men and women engaged in entrepreneurship in Kenya cannot be offset (Development & Integration, n.d.; MOE, 2019). Youth entrepreneurial spirit is annoyed, nevertheless, because youth lack trade agreements to sell their products. Granting youth loans without supporting them in entering the markets only undermines efforts aimed at entrepreneurial orientation and empowering women (MOE, 2019). Although a number of young people seek credit for business start-ups, many borrowers can't repay their loans because their markets lack to sell their products and retrieve their investments. Governments and the private sector should do more to recognise and link young people to markets. For instance, the Youth Fund ought

to develop a strong partnership with Brand Kenya that promotes Kenya's purchase principle to build Kenya. In fact, Brand Kenya and all ministries and departments involved in unemployment levels should develop an approach that strengthens youth employment. In all 47 counties, innovative approaches, such as street markets, should be adopted to give young people a chance to market their products.

#### ***2.4.5 Enhancing Quality of Life of Kenyan Youth and Citizens***

For the foreseeable future young people are and will remain a significant proportion of Kenya's population. The development and implementation of suitable strategies, policies and programs to mitigate risks and challenges that face the government must be much more a priority than it is at present (Kimera, *et al.*, 2019). There is need to come up with strategies and development agenda to enhance quality of life of Kenyan youths. Some of strategies include providing employment opportunities for the youths through government programs like Kazi kwa Vijana (Alsubaie, Stain, Webster, & Wadman, 2019).

#### ***2.4.6 Affirmative action in Awarding Government Tenders***

Cognizant of the youth unemployment problem, the Kenyan government has instituted policies to procure goods and services from youth-owned businesses (Otiende, Mose, & Otieno, 2020). According to Issa and Kiruthu (2019), 30% of all government procurement contracts should go to youth. It is reassuring that certain County governments also have adopted the 30% preference for public procurement, which will benefit youth. However, the directive was not being enforced because there are no national or County-level systems or policies in place. The government should implement

policies to ensure that youth benefit as intended from the decree. If youth are to access tenders, the national and county governments must fundamentally alter and simplify the requirements for youth in the tendering process (Issa & Kiruthu, 2019),

#### *2.4.7 Create Technical Schools to Improve Skills*

It is critical for national and county governments to intervene and address unemployment levels by expanding technical schools that provide youth with marketable skills (Mwendwa, 2017). Notably, the educational system continues to place a high premium on theory while the labor market values technical skills. Technical education programs would benefit the majority of the most disadvantaged youth, particularly those who lack access to formal education. Municipal and provincial governments could perhaps form involvement of the private sector to support and improve technical school education as a means of increasing human skills, youth employability, and productivity in the country (Oviawe, 2018).

#### *2.4.8 Talent Development through Sports and Talent Academies*

At the national and county levels, interventions that nurture and promote talent as a source of employment for youth are required. This can be accomplished by establishing a methodology that is both connected to and anchored in the Ministry of Sports and Culture and the Ministry of Devolution and Planning (Nasubo, 2021). Additionally, there is a need to restructure the Youth Enterprise and Development Fund (YEDF) to consider not only business in the traditional sense, but also how expertise can be a significant source of revenue. For instance, a youth fund should designate a portion of its funds for the film industry, sports, and the arts, among other things. Additionally, there is a need to

alter the negative perceptions of youth who participate in star quality ventures. They must not be regarded as life failures (Jongman, 2020).

#### ***2.4.9 Development of Appropriate Legislative Frameworks***

The youth enterprise and development fund concept has been hailed as a timely and positive step by the government in addressing the country's youth unemployment problem. While significant progress has been made in terms of funds allocated to the youth fund, concerns have been raised about the youth fund's infectious administration. There is a lack of an effective legal, policy, and institutional framework for administering the fund effectively, which has created room for political interference, poor management, and fund misapplication. It is critical that legislation governing the administration of any youth fund in Kenya is enacted through a parliamentary act (Ng'ang'a, 2017).

#### ***2.4.10 Youth Funds and Opportunities***

The government's commitment to addressing youth unemployment through the establishment of youth funds and other empowerment initiatives such as the 30% preference for youth in public procurement is a pleasant and universally liked move (Ndung'u, 2017). However, mechanisms must be in place to ensure that funds and opportunities are accessible, available, and affordable, especially to needy youth. For instance, there is any need to streamline and make accessible information about youth financial resources and a 30% preference for youth in public procurement. Additionally, the Youth Funds' operations should be devolved to expand their reach and impact. Most importantly, if youth are to benefit, loans to youth must be affordable and the process of obtaining funds simplified. Additionally, it is critical to engage youth in brainstorming ways to best administer the Uwezo fund and establish a Youth Bank. Additionally, all

youth fund programs must be cost effective and sustainable in order to address youth unemployment effectively and benefit the youth (Ng'ang'a, 2017).

#### ***2.4.11 Improved security by deploying more security agents***

It is widely recognized that the private industry has a better and greater chance of creating jobs than the government in any market economy. However, in order for the private industry to operate effectively and generate the necessary employment, they require an enabling environment that includes adequate security. Propelling the market growth require a high level of security. However, security remains a concern, particularly for unemployed youth. It is critical for the government to provide security in order to stimulate investment and development at the County and federal levels, as well as to create jobs for young people. However, it is critical for the government to acknowledge that the most self-sustaining way to ensure the countries' and the country's security is through youth job creation. As such, it is prudent to develop youth employment-focused strategies and security interventions. The government restructured the National Police Service to make it more efficient in management of crime and provide security service (Linturi, & Muna, 2021).

### ***2.5 Crime Prevention Strategies in Wajir County***

Appropriate actions for a significant reduction and effective preventative measures of crime rates have become a priority for all countries, as criminal acts manifest themselves in a variety of ways, everywhere and at any time (Dritsakis & Gkanas, 2007). African countries' efforts to combat crime must be stepped up even more. According to Livingstone (2013), the threat of violent act has ramifications for Africa's development

(nepad, governance, and stability. As per private business owners, crime is one of the major impediments to investment on the continent.

Ruwan, Garba, Ogah, Vakpa, and Zamani, (2021) conducted a study on the coping strategies after incorporation of intelligence led policing and crime prevention in Plateau State in Nigeria. The study employed survey design; the study sample size was 110 respondents who were sampled using purposive sampling techniques. Data were sourced from Personal interview and observation. The primary data for this study were generated from interview of chosen agencies within Plateau State that have knowledge of the effect of democratic rule on national security in Nigeria: evidence from post-election violence in Plateau State,( 2011-2019. data collected for this research were analyzed qualitatively through simple percentage and Chi-square.. Findings revealed that: i. Intelligence-led policing have a significant impact on crime prevention in Plateau state. ii. The Intelligence-led policing approaches are effective in crime prevention in Plateau state. iii. There are challenges associated with Intelligence-led policing in crime prevention in Plateau state. Conclusion, the study found that there is a positive relationship between; police-community partnership and crime prevention in Plateau state, intelligence policing strategies and crime prevention in Plateau state. The study therefore concludes that intelligence policing strategies can be used in the reduction and prevention of crime rate in Plateau state. The study recommends the need for more funding; more police posts; and accessible police posts that will create collaborative synergy and partnership in community policing that will be geared towards combating crime in Plateau State. The study also recommends the need for constant police patrol on hot spots; using contact persons for information; using watch programs; intelligence

sharing; effective use of door to door contacts; improve hotline responses; employ familiar police officers; and reduce response time to crimes in regard to community policing preventive strategies to reducing crime in Plateau State.

Winter, Obara, Aguilar, and Johnson, (2021) examined a study on the coping strategies aimed at reducing violence and crime in informal settlement in Nairobi County, Kenya. Crime and violence are serious issues in informal settlements around the world. To date, there is a dearth of evidence about the causes of and effective strategies for reducing and preventing violence and crime in informal settlements in cities in the Global South. Additionally, women's voices are often absent from research focused on violence and crime prevention and reduction in informal settlements. The purpose of this study, therefore, was to identify potential causes of violence and crime in informal settlements, as perceived by women living in Mathare informal settlement in Nairobi, Kenya and to highlight residents' strategies for response and prevention. Fifty-five in-depth and walk-along interviews were conducted with women living in Mathare in 2015-2016. A modified grounded theory approach was used to guide data collection and analysis. The most common contributor to violence and crime identified by women in Mathare was idle youth, but leadership and government challenges, corruption and/or inadequacy of police, community barriers, tribalism, and lack of protective infrastructure also emerged as contributing factors. Despite facing many economic, environmental, and day-to-day challenges, women in Mathare identified violence and crime as predominant issues; thus, developing effective response and prevention strategies to these issues is paramount. Women discussed many strategies and initiatives to reduce and prevent violence and crime in informal settlements, but also identified barriers to implementing them. Findings



suggest there is a need for trust building between formal and informal sectors of the community, systems of accountability, and long-term investment to foster sustainable and effective violence and crime response and prevention in these settlements.

### ***2.5.1 Community Policing***

Successful community policing strategy are close, mutual beneficial ties between police and members of a given community (Alpert, Flynn, & Piquero, 2001; Kappeler & Gaines, 2009; Paez & Dierenfeldt, 2020; Peyton, Sierra-Arévalo, & Rand, 2019). Community policing is composed of two supplementary key components: partnership with the community and problem solving. To form international cooperation, police must establish positive relationships with the neighborhoods in which they live, engage residents in the search for more effective crime intervention and elimination strategies, and pool their money with those of the community to address the most pressing concerns of members of the community (Paez & Dierenfeldt, 2020). Problem solving is the process by which specific community concerns are identified and the most appropriate solutions to these concerns are discovered.

Community policing does not mean that police lose authority or that their primary responsibility of maintaining law and order is delegated to other community members. Utilizing the expertise and resources available within communities, on the other hand, will alleviate some of the burdens placed on police. Local government officials, social service agencies, schools, church groups, and business owners all have a stake in the development of their community and will share responsibility for identifying workable solutions to problems that jeopardize the community's safety and security (Kappeler & Gaines, 2009).

Community policing's objective is to reduce criminal activity by understanding the issues of community difficulties and then implementing appropriate problem-solving methods. The community in which a police officer is assigned should be a small, well-defined geographical area. Beats must be constructed in such a way that they maintain as often as probable of a neighbourhood's unique geographical and social characteristics while allowing for efficient service. Law enforcement officers on patrol are the primary providers of police services and have the greatest contact with members of the community (Paez & Dierenfeldt, 2020). They will be responsible for the majority of the community's daily policing needs, assisted by direct reports, other police units, and suitable welfare and government agencies. Upper-level managers and command staff would be accountable for maintaining that the patrol officers' efforts are supported by the entire organization.

Effective law enforcement is contingent upon order to optimize positive interactions between law enforcement officers and members of the community. Patrol cars are only one mode of police service delivery. Police departments may augment automobile enforcement with foot, bicycle, scooter, and horseback patrols, as well as the addition of "mini-stations" to bring officers closer to the community. Regular community conferences and forums will provide an opportunity for police and community members to voice concerns and work out solutions (Peyton, Sierra-Arévalo, & Rand, 2019).

Officers assigned to the same shift and beat for an extended period of time will become familiar figures to community members and will gain an understanding of the day-to-day operations of the community (Peyton et al., 2019). These increased police presences are a first step toward establishing trust and reducing community members' fear of crime,

which contributes to neighbourhood security. If community members are to participate actively in policing, fear must be reduced. Individuals will refrain from acting if they believe their actions will negatively impact their safety.

While police services are arranged geographically, a community, particularly in urban settings, may encompass a wide variety of cultures, values, and concerns. A community is composed of more than just the local government and the citizens of a particular neighbourhood. Religious institutions, schools, hospitals, social organizations, private and public agencies, and those who live and work in the community are also critical members of the community. Additionally, those who come to the area for cultural or recreational purposes or to provide services are concerned about the neighbourhood's safety and security. By incorporating these "communities of interest" into initiatives to tackle criminal activity, the community's resource base can be expanded. Within and among these communities of interest, concerns and priorities will vary. Certain communities of interest have lasted for generations and were formed along racial, ethnic, occupational, or historical lines, or around a common church or school. Others evolve and reform in response to the identification and resolution of new problems. Within communities, special interests can be antagonistic to one another, sometimes violently so. Intercommunity conflicts have historically been prevalent in large urban areas, particularly during periods of demographic changes and population growth (Paez & Dierenfeldt, 2020).

These multiple and occasionally conflicting interests necessitate patrol officers acting not only as law enforcers, but also as skilled mediators. Police demands made by one community of interest may occasionally conflict with the rights of some other

community of interest. For instance, a community group may object to specific police tactics used to combat gang activity, believing that they may result in discriminatory arrest practices (Paez & Dierenfeldt, 2020). Not only must the police protect the trying to protest group's rights, but they must also work with all community members involved to find a way to maintain neighborhood peace. To make this process effective, members of the community must communicate their concerns and suggestions and support the police's negotiating efforts. This way, the entire community is involved in the mediation process and contributes to the maintenance of order. The police must foster a cooperative spirit that tries to balance the common goals of all citizens with personal liberty (Kappeler & Gaines, 2009).

Conflicts between communities are just as significant as shared characteristics. Police must acknowledge the existence of both in order to foster the cooperative relationships necessary for maintaining order, providing a sense of security, and combating crime. Police officers must develop long-lasting relationships with all members of the community that are centered on fundamental issues of public safety and security. The primary objective of the first core component of community policing local communities is to create and maintain mutual trust (Diphoorn & van Stapele, 2020). The police are aware of the importance of community cooperation. Police have urged community members to come forward with pertinent information in the fight against serious crime. Additionally, police officers have spoken to neighborhood groups, attended business and civic events, collaborated with social service agencies, and participated in educational and recreational programs for school children. Special units have intervened in a variety of ways during times of crisis. Thus, how do the

collaborations of police accountability change in different actions? The critical difference is that in community policing, the police become an essential part of a community culture, and the community contributes to the definition of interactive environment and resource allocation (Diphoorn & van Stapele, 2020). The distinction is significant and encompasses fundamental goals and commitments.

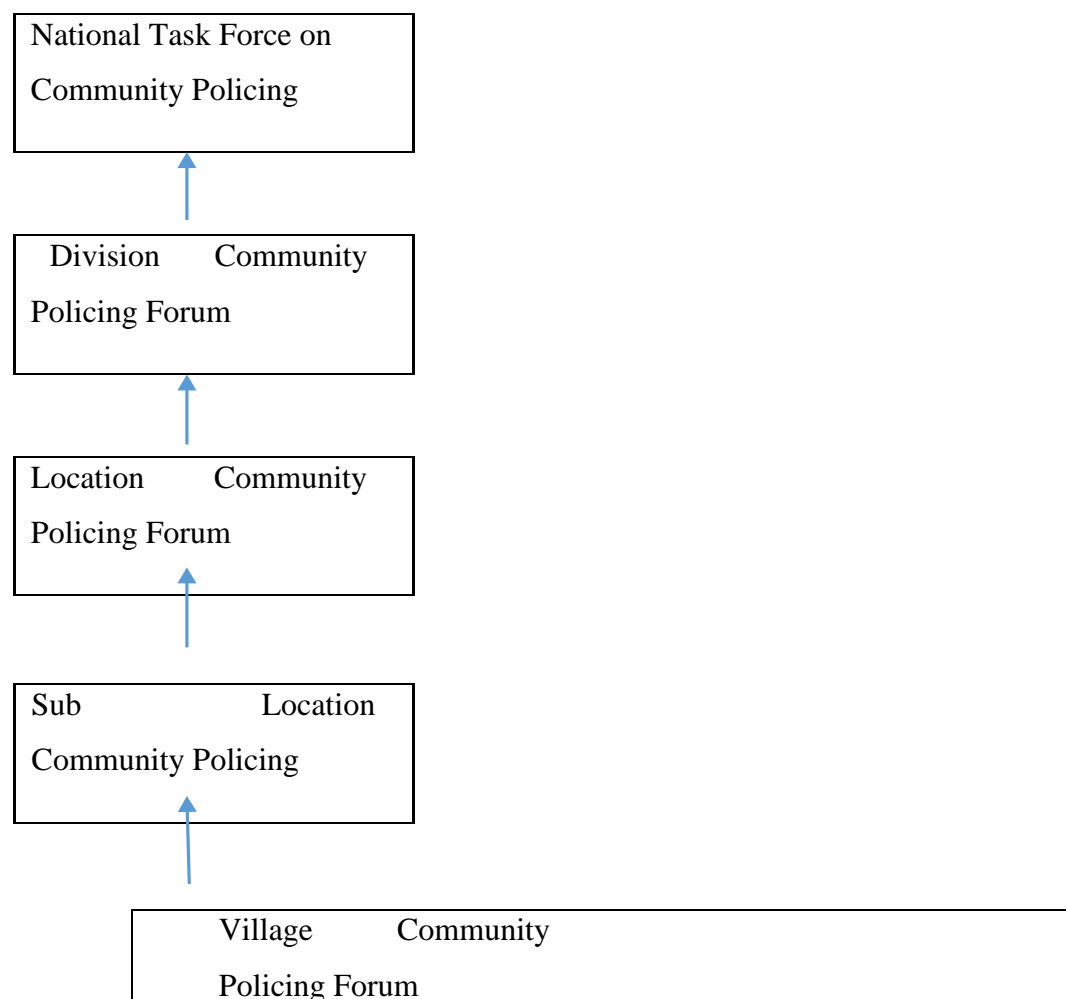
Collaboration with the community entails adopting a policing perspective that goes beyond the traditional police departments' emphasis. This broader perspective recognizes the importance of activities that contribute to a neighbourhood's orderliness and well-being (Alpert et al., 2001). These activities can include helping the victims of accidents or crime, providing medical emergencies, helping to resolve conflicts in the home and the neighborhood such as family violent conflicts, disputes with landlords or racial harassment, working with residents and local companies to improve neighbourhood conditions, monitoring car and pedestrian traffic, providing urgent social services (Kappeler & Gaines, 2009).

These services help to build confidence between the police and the community. This trust will allow police to have more access to valuable community information that could lead to the solution and crime prevention, support necessary crime control measures and provide an opportunity for officials to establish a having to work link with the community. The entire law enforcement agency must engage in community members' cooperation to promote security and security (Paez & Dierenfeldt, 2020). Building trust will not take place overnight; continuous effort is needed. However, confidence has to be accomplished before police can assess community needs and build close ties that support the community (Robinson, n.d.). The police should treat the people with respect and

sensitivity in order to build this trust for an effective community partnership. The use of unnecessary force and arrogance, distraction and grossness at every level of both the agency will diminish the will of community members to join forces with the police (McKee, 2001).

A per Moore, *et al.* (1988), effective community support mobilization requires various approaches in different communities. Confidence and collaboration in middle class and affluent communities are often easier than in poorer communities, which have a long history of mistrust of the police. Building bonds in some neighbourhoods can include trying to support essential social structures such as families, places of worship, schools crippled by prevalent crime or disorder. To sustain lasting alliances that encourage co-operative efforts, the creation of viable communities is necessary. The police are both facilitators and enablers to the development of these communities under community policing.

Community police expand the prevention and control of crime by the police. Police are no longer viewed by the community as an inactive presence or a limited source of information, but as a partner. Crime and disorder concerns in the community therefore become the goal of police and community work together. The close alliance that has been established with the neighborhood must not be limited to an isolated event, a number of incidents or a specific time frame. The police-community partnership must be lasting and balanced (Diphoorn & van Stapele, 2020). It needs to break up the old concepts of professionals versus civilians, experts versus novices and authority figures versus subservient. The police and the community must work together in order to promote and conserve peace and security.



**Figure 2.1:** Partnership Structure for Community Policing  
**Source:** Adapted from (Diphoorn & van Stapele, 2020; pg10)

Community police implementation in Kenya started in May 2001 with the creation of community policing units in Kibera, Ziwani and Isiolo. The Kenya Police, UN Habitat, SaferWorld, and Nairobi Central Business District Association worked together to achieve this. The units have developed valuable knowledge and experience in establishing and operating community police forums (CPFes). The units were further

supported by the development of a national manual for training communities in police sites and policing (GoK, 2003).

The government has adopted community police as a core crime prevention strategy since 2003. This means the combination of law enforcement agencies and community members' efforts and resources. Community police support partnerships so that assistance from enforcement agencies can be sought by the public (Diphoorn & van Stapele, 2020). The community police environment is a necessary environment for community police work. It necessarily involves mutual trust between the police and the community, which has to be preserved after establishment (Ramírez, & Chan, 2020).

The community police partnership structure builds on Community police forums that are established at all levels of the society with community members, law enforcement agencies around the world (GoK, 2009). Community policing discussion boards or community security forums are combined systems where police, community and public communities share information and safety methods with a view to facilitating the supervisory role of the police through the public (Saferworld, 2008). It entails consistent dialog at community and national levels and reduces police exclusivity as a prerogative of police and governmental agencies. It is a forum that promotes communication between service providers and customers, enhances community and service agencies transparency through inclusionary and consensual problem-solving systems (Mlomo, 2019).

### ***2.5.2 Nyumba Kumi Initiative***

The Nyumba Kumi Initiative is a strategy for anchoring community police at different levels, including household, market and estate (Ndono, Muthama, & Muigua,



2019). The community policing initiative is not a new concept in Kenya as it was introduced in 2005. The Nyumba Kumi Community policing initiative was introduced in Kenya following the Westgate terror attack in 2013. It is a strategy of community policing at the household level. It is an adaptation from the Tanzanian “*Ujamaa*” Policy informed by the African ‘*ubuntu*’ philosophy of social connectedness (Ndonoo et al., 2019). The “Nyumba kumi” is a Swahili word for ten homes. It is a way that ten homes inside the area could also meet and monitor their neighbours, especially on the prosperity, practices, characters and security of their neighbours (Frühling, 2007). Munneke (2011) defines “nyumba kumi” Activity is efficiently moved, there was a desire for neighbors to know one another well and improve their safety by taking care of others for well-being reasons. Nyumba Kumi is a family-level anchoring procedure or some other unspecific cluster.

These family units could be in a private courtyard, a legacy, a housing square, manyatta, a highway, a market, a private society, a town or a bulla. Wekesa (2016) maintains that the idea was to unite Kenyans into physical areas, feel the need and search of basic objectives: a sheltered, supportive and prosperous neighbourhood. The initiative is supposed to involve equal representation, however is not the case on the ground as the Nyumba Kumi is perceived to involve the elderly members of the community (Ndonoo et al., 2019). This makes it an effort that is exclusive of the youthful population, yet they are the ones most engaged in criminal activities. The consequences have been a lot of mistrust, friction and misunderstanding between the youth and elders. There are concerns and debates regarding the constitutionality and legality of the Nyumba Kumi Initiative. The initiative is not directly entrenched in the constitution however; it is inferred under

Article 244 (e). in the absence of well define structures, the role of the initiative is not stipulated and may infringe on the rights of other members and individuals such as the right to privacy and right to security will be prevalent (Ndono et al., 2019). In some cases, members tend to take matters into their own hands and treat suspected criminals in a cruel and degrading manner or even instigate mob justice instead of reporting the same to the police. There are cases where the Nyumba Kumi elders are criminals or even cases whereby members perceive the Nyumba Kumi as an extortion business where suspects are asked to part with bribes of pay for protection (Ndono et al., 2019).

The Nyumba Kumi model has different social shades of ideology, legislation, ethnicity, prejudice, sexual orientation and several other contentious associations. As per Munneke (2011), the prompt needs of the clusters include but are not limited to safety, condition, instruction and conduct in large areas of culture. These set the framework of good social welfare, which should be persuaded to prove that Nyumba Kumi chooses the whole of life. Mediations by the group are more concerned with anticipating negative social exercises and increasing positive appreciation (Wekesa, 2016). Short-term mediation addresses concerns about the fear of misdemeanour, misuse of instruction and undesirable natural concerns with a long-term aim to promote the public's social and financial prosperity. Although it considers protected measures on membership flexibility and ideal for protection and to participate in issues of security as a major aspect of its community obligation and in the soul of patriotism towards its nationality (Munneke, 2011).

Successful Nyumba Kumi initiative diminished neighborhood wrongdoings diminish subjects' dread of wrongdoing, and upgrade the personal satisfaction in the

group (Wekesa, 2016). A vital objective of this work is to give neighbourhoods higher quality management; consumer loyalty thus becomes an essential measure of adequacy. The impressions of progress among group individuals and continuous criticism from all the group components are fundamental elements of the examination procedure. Arbitrarily and routinely conducted, reviews informed the office of the general visibility of the execution of the police, the level of fear and concern, and showed the office that groups feel they are members of the Nyumba Kumi initiative (Mayhill, 2006; Munneke, 2011; Mwangi, 2012).

More generally, Nyaura and Ngugi (2014) demonstrate that Nyumba Kumi Initiative handles a scope of security issues from sex-based savagery and wrongdoing to an absence of trust amongst groups and security suppliers, between ethnic pressures or weapons multiplication. In any case, recollect that individuals live incorporated lives in which security concerns, for example, wrongdoing, brutality, terrorizing and are regularly personally connected to more extensive 'human security' issues identified with individuals' wellbeing, training and vocations (Kyed, 2010). Nyumba Kumi Initiative works through local accomplices, allowing people to recognize and organize their needs for well-being and safety and bring together people, police officers, neighbourhood experts and other protection and equity providers (Wazed and Akhtar, 2015).

Besides, Ngigi (2018) add that Nyumba Kumi Initiative is the apparent push to improve security consequently perceiving the association and shared obligation of the police officers and the people in the community in guaranteeing a sheltered and secure condition. In addition, it is a dynamic link between police officers and the general public to combat wrongdoing and enhance team security as the main theme of the Nyumba

Kumi Initiative in Kenya. Nyumba Kumi Initiative reacts to the reduction in open lightness in the police and to the need for partners in the fight against wrongdoing (Ngigi, 2018). This approach makes the group better aware and realizes that it has a role to play in ensuring its own special well-being and that of its property (Were, & Opondo, 2021).

Citizens' attitude towards security initiatives is an important part of this process. Nyumba Kumi Initiative activities including such citizen boards of directors, town hall meetings, foot patrol, neighbourhood watch, and door-to-door visits are designed to improve citizens' gratification with the police, start encouraging people to share information on crimes, offenders and public health and safety problems, and increase the awareness that police officials are looking at citizens' problems. These activities also make it easier to contact police officers to tell them about problems and exchange information about criminality (Wazed& Akhtar, 2015).

People have changed their perceptions of neighbourhood watch initiatives created through social and physical experiences, interactions with law enforcement and their environment. Citizens' response to social and physical problems therefore creates fear that leads to citizens retreating from crime-infested areas (Kelling, 2015). Groff, Johnson, Ratcliffe and Wood (2013) describes citizens' perceptions as an unadvertised, combatable, friendly approach between the public and the foot patrol officers; and car patrol officers as adversaries and suspects in cases when citizens were presumed to have been threatening arrest.

The addition of determined police and neighbourhood relations to Bush and Dodson (2014) include reliance on citizen complaints to raise awareness and resolve

situations. At the same time, citizens do not want to be engaged in the government in but want their problems highlighted. These mixed signals between law enforcement agencies and citizens divide citizens into groups of the those suspected to take involved in illegal activity, who record the lack of professionalism in police activities and people who do not fall into one category and who do not fully comprehend what the officers are doing (Bush & Dodson, 2014).

Community member's role in Nyumba Kumi Initiative in Kenya involves volunteering information on unsavoury activity or activities, directly working with Police through Nyumba Kumi Initiative Forums, assisting the police to support you, and encouraging greater neighbourly contacts. In particular, the community members help victims of crime through counselling, protecting their own areas of the city and therefore safety begins with an individual who should be always alert as an individual (Kenya Police, 2014).

Nyaura (2014) acknowledges that in Kenya, the police are the security sector's most noticeable institution, and its functions affect the entire citizenry. The Nyumba Kumi initiative therefore represents a new type of police service, reactive to local communities' needs; a service percentage increase that probably contributed to management of conflicts. The role of the Nyumba Kumi Police Service in the Kenya Police Initiative (2014) means that they communicate to the society and provide feedback on crime and details on security; Listening to and understanding public needs; being involved in resolving problems toward more consumer satisfaction; being transparent, accountable and effective; performing activities as well as other police duties today; building a way for Nyumba Kumi Initiative Forum formation.

The number of family units grouped should not be forced, established or limited by external powers (Vinzant & Lane, 2014). In accordance with this rule, existing Nyumba Kumi Initiative plans should not be disturbed but enhanced and changed. For example, a few groups are company units united by searching for contrasting aims and priorities. Among other variables, population thickness, culture and demography affect such groups (Ngigi, 2018).

## **2.6      *Summary and Research Gap***

From the literature, the literature that has been reviewed above, it is clear that most of the criminal activities that are related with the youth are those of a petty nature. As the youth mature up, they engage in crime that are more sophisticated and carry consequences that are more serious. The socio-economic backgrounds of the society from which young people come from play an important role in moulding the type of the individual in the society. Underdevelopment areas of the country are susceptible to high rates of unemployment and poverty. Young people are easily attracted to criminal activities as a way to survive the difficult economic challenges facing them. The influence of religion and other cultural practices are also a great influencer of criminal behaviour. In cases of religious extremism, it has been documented that young people are indoctrinated to engage in extreme religious beliefs such as terrorism and subscribe to criminal gangs such as Al Shaabab. In order to mitigate the effects of crime and reduce the proliferation of criminal activities, the government has come up with different strategies. The strategies have achieved different levels of success in preventing crime. From the preceding literature review, it is clear that the typology of youth related criminal activities in Wajir County is not clearly explained. It is important to study the

nature of the association amongst socio-economic factors and the occurrence of criminal behavior amongst young people in Wajir County. Given that several cases and particular types of crime are not reported, it is necessary to investigate the types of crime that are prevalent in Wajir and explore the prevalence. The next chapter presents research methodology.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter provides details of the approach to research. The research design is explained and illustrated. The target population and data collection instruments are defined. Also included in the chapter are data collection procedures, methods of data analysis, operationalization of variables and ethical issues observed in the research.

#### **3.2 Research Design**

Mason (2018) describes research philosophy as a guide that helps in determining the method in which a research should be conducted. The research philosophy that was suitable for this study was Pragmatism. Pragmatism has often been identified in the mixed methods research literature as the appropriate paradigm for conducting mixed methods research. Therefore, the study adopted a mixed research method combining descriptive survey and correlational research designs. For the purpose of establishing knowledge and the way things are, it is descriptive design (Toshkov, 2016). It is also correlational because it seeks to establish the relationship between independent and the dependent variables in the study, which in this case is the relationship between the incidence of youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir County. Their causal and effect relationship is not investigated. Further the study does not in any way intent to alter these and the phenomena but merely discovers and explains the relationship. Descriptive research involves gathering data and systematically treating it to present a comprehensive and intelligible inference (Orodho & Kombo, 2002).



### **3.3 Research Site**

The study was conducted in Wajir County in North Eastern part of the Republic of Kenya (Appendix 6). The choice of Wajir as a research site is due to its cosmopolitan nature and the fact that it is the largest County in Northeastern Kenya. Although the County has been underserved compared to the other endowed regions in Kenya, it plays a strategic role in positioning Kenya with its neighbouring counties of Garissa and Mandera (Kumssa, Williams & Jones, 2011). The uncharted terrains in Wajir enable the County to affirm their viability, particularly in the devolution era. Wajir is the largest County with 55,841 square kilometres (Omondi, 2018). Youths comprise of 32% of the 661,773 people, which shows high potential in skilled and unskilled labour in the formal as well as an informal sector in Northern Eastern region of Kenya (World Bank, 2018). Devolution has enabled Wajir to overcome marginalization in terms of infrastructural development (World Bank, 2018). According to Kimathi (2017), the socio-economic transformation experienced in the country and the County is due to the devolution and maximum utilization of resources distributed by the national government.

### **3.4 Target Population**

As per Borg and Gall (2009), target population for all members of real or hypothetical groups of persons, events or objects to which an investigator wishes to generalize the results is a universal study set. The target population of this study comprised of the Police officers from various sub-County police stations, staff from County's office, residents of Wajir County and personnel from the Ministry of Youth and Wajir County. The village elders represented the Wajir County residents from each sub-County. As Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) explain, the target population should have

observable characteristics, with the aim of generalizing the results of the study. This definition presupposes that the population is not uniform. The main objective of selecting the target population is to be able to obtain up-to-date and past information from individuals who participated in road construction projects, and therefore faced the delay problems facing the projects.

**Table 3. 1: Target population**

| <b>Category of Respondents</b> | <b>Total population</b> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Police                         | 300                     |
| County residents – Elders      | 50                      |
| County Commissioners Staff     | 10                      |
| Ministry of Youth personnel    | 10                      |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>370</b>              |

### **3.5 Study Sample**

This section presents the methods and techniques that were used for sampling, the procedure of sampling and eventually how the final study sample was reached from the target population and the details of how data was obtained, processed and analyzed. The sampling frame describes the list of all population units from which the sample was selected (Cooper & Schindker, 2003) cited by Fugar and Adwoa (2010). Sampling is selecting a given number of subjects from a defined population as representative of that population. From the target population of 370 respondents, the researcher used various sampling techniques to arrive at the representative sample size. These respondents having been in working in Wajir County, dealing with the youths of the County and come from the area the researcher conducted his research hence have knowledge on the research.

### 3.5.1 Study Sample Size

The sample size population was determined by Yamane formula as cited in Israel (1992). There is a 95 % confidence level and for all categories of respondents. P = .05 was assumed for both police officers and County residents.

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

n-the sample size

N-the population

The resulting samples are as follows:

$$n = \frac{300}{1 + 300 (.05 \times .05)}$$

$$= 171$$

171 sampled police officers from Wajir County.

For Residents (Elders)

$$\frac{50}{1 + 50(0.05)^2} = \frac{50}{1.125} = 44$$

**Table 3. 2: Sample Size and Target Population**

| Target population | Population | Sample Size | Sample size Percentage | Sampling technique           |           |
|-------------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Police Officers   | 300        | 171         | 57                     | Proportionate, simple random |           |
| County Residents  | 50         | 44          | 88                     | Census                       |           |
| County Staff      | 10         | 10          | 100                    | Census                       | Purposive |
| Youth personnel   | 10         | 10          | 100                    | Census                       | Purposive |
| Total             | 370        | 235         |                        |                              |           |

**Source: Author (2022)**

### **3.5.2 Sampling Procedure**

The sampling procedure describes the list of all population units from which the sample was selected (Cooper & Schindler, 2003). Sample of responding staff and residents were drawn from Wajir County. The target population was stratified into four categories as depicted in Table 3.2. Wajir County has 6 sub-counties. Respondents were selected from 5 police stations within the County. The participating stations were selected using simple random sampling. From each station, a proportionate sample of the number of officers in the station was selected. Each sub-County police station has 50 officers while the County headquarters has 100 police officers making a total of 300 police officers. Sampling by proportionate allocation was used to select 171 police officers. Forty-four (44) County residents represented by the Elders were selected purposively from each sub-County. Ten (10) youth leaders were purposefully identified to participate in the study. This was done with the support of the informed community elders to identify reliable youths to provide fill the questionnaires. The inclusion criteria were the literacy levels and trustworthiness of the youth leaders. Ten (10) ministries of youth personnel were those responsible with youth employment in the County offices. Thus, the sample size comprised of 235 respondents drawn across the four strata. Gay (2001) pointed that a sample of 10-40% is representative. The sampling techniques applied are suitable because of the unique and sensitive information that the researcher seeks to obtain that can only be obtained from specific individuals. Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) reported that purposive sampling is useful when the researcher seeks to obtain data from respondents who possess unique characteristics.

### **3.6 Data Collection**

Upon approval of the proposal by the Africa Nazarene University to collect data, the researcher coordinated the process of data collection in Wajir County. The researcher also applied and obtained research permit for data collection from NACOSTI. The researcher engaged three research assistants who assisted in data collection. The research assistants were trained to understand clearly the research instruments, study purpose and research ethics. The researchers and assistants gave the respondents questionnaires face-to-face.

#### ***3.6.1 Data Collection Instruments***

The instruments to be used in this study were questionnaires and interview schedules. The questionnaires were utilized for collecting information from respondents in the town of Wajir. The questionnaire is divided into subheadings that refer to the fundamental information of the respondents, the objectives items discussed in the literature. The instruments collected both qualitative and quantitative data. The questionnaires were used to obtain data from the police officers and County residents. The interview schedule was used to collect data from County staff and youth personnel. Piloting was done to test the validity and reliability of the instruments. The instruments were piloted using seven (7) respondents and the procedure repeated in a week. The respondents who participate in the piloting were excluded from the final study sample to avoid biased results.

#### ***3.6.2 Pilot Testing of Research Instruments***

The survey was reviewed and the research supervisor tested a small pilot sample of respondents with similar characteristics. The pilot sample consisted of 24 staff

involved in the youth office in Wajir that was selected randomly. Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) recommend that the pilot sample should account for 10% of the sample depending on the size of the study. The piloting was done in the town of Wajir. Piloting allows identification of vague questions that allow your review until all subjects receive the same meaning (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2003).

### **3.6.3 *Instrument Reliability***

Reliability concerns whether the study results can be repeated. A composite reliability (Cronbach alpha) coefficient of 0.6 or higher, for all buildings, was considered appropriate for this study. The acceptable coefficient of reliability is 0.6 and above (Rousson, Gasser and Seifer, 2002). Cronbach Alpha was used to test the reliability of the research instrument. Heale and Twycross (2015) noted that the reliability of a research instrument measures and gives consistent results or data following multiple trials. Gibbs and Jenkins (2014), who argue that reliability measures what is to be measured through the use of the test testing technology in the research instrument, also support this. It is important to determine factors like speed of returning the filled documents, accuracy and honesty of information provided and how specific information by researcher is. Data from pilot testing were used to test reliability. Cronbach's Alpha coefficient was calculated for each item to determine the reliability of the research instrument. Bengtsson (2016) pointed out that a 0.7 or higher reliability coefficient was supposed to reflect internal instrument reliability. The questionnaires were deemed reliable following correction of errors and omissions.

#### **3.6.4 Instrument Validity**

Validity is the quality of a data-gathering instrument that enables it to measure what it is supposed to measure. Creswell (2003) noted that validity concerns whether the instrument can draw meaningful and useful conclusions from scores. Consequently, validity concerns the effectiveness of the data and not the instrument. To ensure content validity, the research supervisors examined the instruments. The validity of content provides a logical assessment as to whether the instrument covers what it is meant to cover. The validity of the contents ensured that all respondents similarly understood the questionnaire items to avoid misunderstanding. Most of the questions were answered to ensure that the answers provided were consistent with the research issues to be measured.

#### **3.6.5 Data Collection Procedure**

The questions were administered to the respondents by the researcher and the assistants. Interviews and document analysis was conducted by the researcher. After obtaining permission to conduct the research, the researcher obtained research permit from the National Council for Research, Science and Technology to conduct the study within Kenya. This permit together with the University letter of transmittal was presented to the relevant agencies for authorization to conduct research upon obtaining the relevant authorization; the researcher proceeded to administer the research instruments.

### **3.7 Data Processing and Analysis**

The study generated both qualitative and quantitative data. Data entry and coding for quantitative data were done into Statistical Packages for Social Scientists (SPSS Version 23.0) and analysed utilizing descriptive statistics. The study used content analysis for analysing qualitative data. In content analysis, responses with common

themes or patterns are grouped together into comprehensible categories. Multiple correlations was used to establish any relationships between the variables.

### **3.8 Legal and Ethical Considerations**

Ethics in research is a key component for planning and implementing research and is not regarded as a liability (Gakuu and Kidombo, 2013). This research has been guided by strict adherence to research ethics that prevent the researchers from engaging in disappointment or invasion of privacy. The right of respondents not to answer the questions was clarified from the beginning and the consent was sought. The anonymity and confidentiality were also guaranteed by telling the respondents not to write their names on the questionnaires. The researcher was extremely humble and honest in conducting his research, attempting to avoid distortions and misrepresenting data manipulation. The researcher has also tried to maintain intellectual honesty and seek properly recognized collaborative support. The researcher concludes on objective based on inferences that are purely and thoughtlessly guided by the data collected. The researcher obtained a transmittal letter from Africa Nazarene University, which used in applying for research permit from the National Council for Research, Technology and Innovation. Upon obtaining the research permit, the researcher sought permission from the County commissioner to visit the research site.

### **3.9 Chapter Summary**

This chapter presented the research methodology followed while conducting the study covering research design, target population, data collection instruments data collection procedures, methods of data analysis, operationalization of variables and ethical issues observed in the research. The next chapter presents data analysis and findings.



## CHAPTER FOUR

### DATA ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

#### 4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the results and discussions of quantitative data analysis of the study. The main purpose of this study was to establish the relationship between youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir County in North Eastern part of the Republic of Kenya.

#### 4.2 Characteristics of the respondents

The study targeted 300 police officers, 50 County residents represented by the local elders, 10 County staff and 10 Ministry of Youth affairs personnel. The sample size comprised of 171 police officers, 44 residents, 10 County staff and youth personnel. As such, 215 questionnaires were issued to the respondents. 158 questionnaires were dully filled and returned. This translates to 73.5% as shown in Table 4.1. This rate of response is acceptable as affirmed by Mugenda and Mugenda (2008). They indicate a response rate of over 70 percent for the generalization of the results of the study. This also concurs with Cooper and Schindler (2006) who noted that the study whose rate of response is more than 70% is enough for a study of a social science nature.

**Table 4.1: Response Rate**

| <b>Response rate</b> | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percentage</b> |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Responded            | 158              | 73.5              |
| Did Not respond      | 57               | 26.5              |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>215</b>       | <b>100</b>        |

**Source:** Author (2022)

### 4.3 Presentation of research analysis, findings and interpretation

The study significance of the data sought to establish the demographic information of the respondents based on gender, age bracket, and level of educational qualification.

#### 4.3.1 *Gender of the Respondents*

The gender of the respondents was first sought since the findings would assist the study categorize respondents based on gender and the results are illustrated in Table 4.2

The findings in Table 4.2 shows that majority of the respondents 98 (62.0%) were male while minority 60 (38.0%) were female. This implies that majority of the subjects who participate in the study were male compared to their female counterparts.

**Table 4. 1: Gender of the Respondents**

| <b>Gender</b> | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percentage</b> |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Male          | 98               | 62.0              |
| Female        | 60               | 38.0              |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>158</b>       | <b>100</b>        |

**Source: Author (2022)**

#### 4.3.2 *Age of the Respondents*

The age of the respondents was sought since its findings would assist the study categorize respondents based on age. The study findings are presented in Table 4.4. The study findings in Table 4.4 shows that 33 (20.9%) of the respondents were aged between 18 - 30 years, 91(57.6%) were aged between 31 and 40 years, 94 (21.5%) were aged between 41 and 54 years. The results are an indication that majority of the respondents

have a substantial mature age which means they were competent enough as noted by Mutoro (2012) who noted that maturity determines the competence and efficiency.

**Table 4. 2: Age Bracket**

| <b>Age Bracket</b> | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percentage</b> |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 18-30 years        | 33               | 20.9              |
| 31-40 years        | 91               | 57.6              |
| 41-54 years        | 94               | 21.5              |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>158</b>       | <b>100.0</b>      |

**Source: Author (2022)**

#### **4.3.3 Academic qualification**

Academic qualification of the respondents was sought since its findings would assist the study categorize respondents based on their academic qualifications and findings are shown in Table 4.4.

The findings in Table 4.4 shows that 73(46.2%) of the respondents had ordinary certificate level, 12(7.6%) had A-level certificate, 31(19.6%) had college level education and 42 (26.6%) had University level education. This implies that the respondents had sufficient academic qualification to understand the influence of unemployment of crime prevalence in Wajir County.

**Table 4. 3: Level of Education**

| <b>Level of Education</b> | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percentage</b> |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| O-level                   | 73               | 46.2              |
| A-level                   | 12               | 7.6               |
| Tertiary college          | 31               | 19.6              |
| University                | 42               | 26.6              |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>158</b>       | <b>100.0</b>      |

**Source: Author (2022)**

#### 4.4 Type of youth-related crimes and crime prevalence in Wajir County

The first objective of the study was to determine the relationship between the typology of youth-related crimes and crime prevalence in Wajir County. In order to achieve this objective, the researcher collected descriptive data on the typology of crime activities within the County. Data was analyzed descriptively. The Table 4.5 depicts the typology of youth-related crimes within the County.

**Table 4. 4: Statements on Type of youth-related crime in Wajir County**

|  | N   | Min | Max | Mean | Std.<br>Deviation |
|--|-----|-----|-----|------|-------------------|
| Covert criminal activities are mainly perpetrated by youthful elite    | 158 | 3   | 5   | 4.70 | .559              |
| Perpetrators of stealing done by military officers mostly go scot free | 158 | 3   | 5   | 4.36 | .567              |
| Overt crime is easily identifiable                                     | 158 | 2   | 5   | 4.65 | .687              |
| Youthful people are more prone to deviant behavior                     | 158 | 3   | 5   | 4.61 | .526              |
| Young people are more involved in politically instigated violence      | 158 | 4   | 5   | 4.84 | .366              |
| Youth support terrorist groups to carry out attacks                    | 158 | 1   | 5   | 3.01 | 1.478             |
| Youths are used by politicians to perform acts of lawlessness          | 158 | 3   | 5   | 4.85 | .404              |
| Young people engage in cattle rustling to fulfill cultural duties      | 158 | 1   | 5   | 3.63 | 1.264             |
| Drug-trafficking and abuse is rampant among the youth                  | 158 | 2   | 5   | 4.62 | .624              |

**Source: Author (2022)**

From the Table 4.4, youthful citizens engage in covert criminal activities. This is demonstrated by ( $M = 4.7$ ,  $SD = .559$ ). This implies that respondents agreed that youthful elite engage in covert criminal activities and did not significantly differ in their responses. The type of covert activities are subtle and cannot be clearly attributed to youth activities Gimode (2001) differentiated between covert and overt crime that youthful population engage in. This is in line with (Rocque, Posick, & Hoyle, 2016) who identified crimes related to youth such as drug peddling, burglary and robbery. Respondents also agreed that perpetrators of crime usually are let to go scot free because of weak justice system and lack of evidence ( $M = 4.36$ ,  $SD = .567$ ). This implies that there was little divergence in terms of the participants' responses regarding this matter. The respondents indicated that youthful people are more prone to deviant behavior ( $M=4.61$ ,  $SD=.526$ ). These activities are not in line with the generally accepted mode of behaviour within the community that is largely Muslim and is strictly guided by communal moral principles. The level of agreement was strong as indicated by the high mean and moderate standard deviation, which means the opinions of the respondents were equally divided but leaned more towards agreeing with the statement.

The respondents strongly agreed that young people are more involved in politically instigated violence ( $M=4.84$ ,  $SD=.366$ ). This finding is in line with (Schönteich & Louw, 2001) who conducted a similar study in South Africa. This type of violence is very common in Kenya especially during the period before the general elections and after the elections. Politicians organise young people in paid gangs and use

them to cause chaos and disruptions in the camps of their political rivals. (Sanin and Jaramillo, 2000) reported similar findings in their study. There was very low deviation among the respondents regarding this matter. There was moderate agreement that youth support terrorist groups to carry out attacks ( $M=3.01$ ,  $SD=1.478$ ). Although terrorism is a frequent occurrence in the North Eastern part of the country, the respondents agreed that the youth support for terrorist group activities is not so high within the County. This finding is a departure from what (Botha, 2014; Getachew, 2016) reported that Islamic extremism has increased in Kenya because of Al Shabaab activities.

The respondents strongly agreed that youths are used by politicians to perform acts of lawlessness ( $M=4.85$ ,  $SD=.404$ ). These activities take place during after the elections. Politicians take advantage of the unemployed and idle youth and engage them in political thuggery for a small fee. The emergence of goons-for-hire during this period is a clear testimony of this fact. The levels of deviation in terms of agreement on this matter were low as indicated by the low standard deviation. Other activities that are of a criminal nature that youth engage in include cattle rustling to fulfil cultural duties ( $M=3.63$ ,  $SD=1.264$ ). Wajir County is comprised largely of the pastoral communities that rear cattle, goats, and camels. There are prevalent cattle rustling activities between communities. Young people engage in these activities so that they can acquire animals to use in paying dowry and reselling for economic purposes. The respondents strongly agreed there was rampant drug trafficking and abuse among the youth ( $M=4.62$ ,  $SD=.624$ ). The drugs that youth are involved in trafficking include social drugs such as *cannabis sativa*, heroin and cocaine.

One youth personnel reported that:

*“Politicians take advantage of idle youth and use them to cause political chaos during elections time”*

The respondents were asked if they were aware of any criminal cases that the youth in Wajir County engage in. Based on their responses, four major types of criminal activities emerged. This are tabulated in Table 4.6

**Table 4. 5: Youth-Related Crime**

|                | <b>Criminal activities that youth engage in</b>                                     |  |  |   |   |
|----------------|---|--|--|---|---|
|                | Q5 criminal activities which young people engage in that you are aware (RAPECASE S) | Q5 criminal activities which young people engage in that you are aware (DRUGS) | Q5 criminal activities which young people engage in that you are aware (ROBBERY) | Q5 criminal activities which young people engage in that you are aware (MURDER) | Q5 criminal activities which young people engage in that you are aware (VIOLENCE) |
| Mean           | 1.06  | 1.00   | 1.00   | 1.52  | 1.31  |
| Std. Deviation | .245  | .000   | .000   | .505  | .468  |

**Source: Author (2022)**

From the Table 4.6, the respondents differed in terms of whether they knew about the prevalence of murder cases among youth-related criminal activities (M=1.52, S.D=.505). However, in terms of youth engagement in drugs and acts of violence, there was complete agreement that youth engage in this type of criminal activities as depicted in the Table 4.6.

Many respondents (93.8%) reported that they know about youth engaging in criminal activities involving rape. All the respondents agreed that they were aware of youth engaging in drugs and robbery activities. Meanwhile 47.9% and 68.8% of the

respondents reported that they were aware of youth engaging in murder and violent activities, respectively. This is demonstrated in Table 4.7.

**Table 4. 6: Types of Crime**

| Type of criminal activities | YES   | NO    |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|
| Rape                        | 93.8% | 6.3%  |
| Drugs                       | 100%  | -     |
| Robbery                     | 100%  | -     |
| Murder                      | 47.9% | 52.1% |
| Violence                    | 68.8% | 31.3% |

Source: Author (2022)

#### **4.5 Socio-Economic Perspectives of Youth Unemployment and Crime Prevalence**

The second research objective was to establish the relationship between socio-economic perspectives of youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir County.

The mean and standard deviations of the responses were computed. The results of the analysis are tabulated in Table 4.8



**Table 4. 7: Socio-economic perspectives of youth-related crime**

|   | N   | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std. Deviation |
|---|-----|---------|---------|------|----------------|
| Youth engage in criminal activities due to economic reason                      | 158 | 2       | 5       | 4.89 | .422           |
| Criminal activities are closely related to the poverty levels                   | 158 | 4       | 5       | 4.78 | .412           |
| Social exclusion plays a major role in crime prevalence                         | 158 | 3       | 5       | 4.48 | .626           |
| Income inequalities push young people to engage in crime                        | 158 | 3       | 5       | 4.38 | .654           |
| Social-cultural background is related to the propensity to engage in crime      | 158 | 1       | 5       | 3.99 | 1.159          |
| Youth engage in crime because of financial rewards                              | 158 | 1       | 5       | 4.46 | .968           |
| Probability of apprehension & conviction is considered before engaging in crime | 158 | 1       | 5       | 3.70 | 1.488          |

**Source: Author (2022)**

The findings of the study revealed that youth engage in criminal activities due to economic reasons ( $M=4.89$ ,  $SD=.422$ ). The respondent strongly agreed that economic hardships have propelled the youth to engage in crime to secure a source of livelihood. (Matsueda, 2017) found out that criminality is dependent upon social structure and social networks within a given locality while Warr (2002) finds that influence of peers is also important aspect. The high unemployment rate among the youth in the country is reflected in Wajir County that is also among the semi-arid parts of the country where

economic marginalisation is also on rampant. The low levels of education have also aggravated economic hardships among the population, which drives the largely youthful population to unemployment.

A County staff indicated that:

*“idleness amongst the unemployed youth makes them to engage in criminal activities as a way to pass time and also to overcome boredom and frustrations. Many have resorted to drug abuse and petty crime”*

The findings also revealed that criminal activities are closely related to the poverty levels ( $M=4.78$ ,  $SD=.412$ ). This finding is in line with the previous one on economic factors. Due to unemployment and marginalisation, the Wajir County has experienced increased poverty levels that make the situation difficult for most of the population. Consequently, young people who are the most vulnerable and affected resort to criminal activities as a source of livelihood.

Social exclusion plays a major role in crime prevalence. This was confirmed by the respondents who strongly agreed to this statement ( $M=4.48$ ,  $SD=.626$ ). However, there was a large deviation in their responses as some of them had very divergent views on this matter. Wajir County is in the arid and semi-arid parts of Kenya that have historically been marginalised from the mainstream economic development activities. Prior to new constitution 2010 and the advent of devolved system of government, this region lagged in economic development. Because of marginalisation, the disadvantaged population have been pushed to the periphery and forced to engage in alternative forms of

livelihood. Youthful population has been largely affected and some of them engage in crime as a means of survival.

Differences in socio-economic status are a major driver of social evils including crime. The findings of this study revealed that income inequalities push young people to engage in crime (4.38, SD=.654). the respondents strongly agreed when asked to respond to this statement. However, there was large deviation in their responses as indicted by the large standard deviation.

This was corroborated by a youth respondent who said that:

*“The high level of poverty among the unemployed youth have led them to desperate activities such as supporting Al Shabaab, selling drugs and contra-band goods smuggled across the border”*

Wajir County is a region of diverse socio-cultural backgrounds in terms of general population. The urban parts of the County are largely cosmopolitan. However, the rural parts are composed of people from the nomadic communities. Because of this diversity, crime is not typically related to the social cultural contexts. This was revealed by the findings of the study where the respondents were not very sure that social-cultural background is related to the propensity to engage in crime (3.99, SD=1.159). Their responses were largely the same as indicated by the low standard deviation.

The main driver for participating in crime is monetary gain. Young people do not engage in crime for the sake of it, rather, they are driven by the desire to secure some source of income. The respondents agreed that youth engage in crime because of financial rewards (M=4.46, SD=.968). Their responses were largely deviant in the sense

that they held diverse views regarding this statement. This finding is interesting because it goes against the grain of the other findings which showed that economic hardships and poverty were major drivers. It is probable that engaging in crime may not necessarily be driven by financial greed, but by the need for survival and to secure a livelihood for the young people.

The respondents agreed that young people that engage in criminal activities consider the risk factor and chances of being caught or getting away with crime. They reported that the probability of apprehension and conviction is considered before engaging in crime ( $M=3.70$ ,  $SD=1.488$ ). When the chances of committing a crime are not being caught are high, people will tend to take the risk and commit a crime. However, if the risk of being caught is high, few people will attempt crime unless they are driven by very strong compelling reasons.

The findings concur with rational theory that states that an individual will consider the available options in order of preference and choose the options that appeal more to their realization of their goals. In terms of criminal behaviour, the choice to engage in criminal activities is made with full realization of the ensuing consequences.

The findings are in line with Buonanno (2003) who argued that there are rational agents that motivate criminals to make an economic choice to engage in criminal activities. Criminal activities are closely related to poverty, social exclusion, wage and income inequalities, socio-cultural background, family, the level of education and other variables that increase an individual's propensity to engage in crime. The findings also concur with Rocque et al. (2016) who noted that some people become lawbreakers because of the

financial and other benefits of crime as opposed to legal work. Reducing crime may be done by reducing the benefits of crime or increasing the likelihood of being caught or the cost of retribution dependent on being caught.

#### **4.6 Government Policies on Youth Unemployment and the Prevalence of Crime**

The third research objective set out to establish the relationship between government policies and youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County. Descriptive statistics were utilized to analyze the data obtained from the respondents. The mean and standard deviations of the responses were computed and are presented in Table 4.9.

**Table 4. 8: Government Policies on Youth Unemployment and Crime Prevalence**

|   | N   | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std.<br>Deviation |
|---|-----|---------|---------|------|-------------------|
| a) Youth empowerment<br>& mainstreaming<br>reduces crime<br>prevalence            | 158 | 4       | 5       | 4.93 | .255              |
| b) Enabling youth<br>access market<br>opportunities                               | 158 | 3       | 5       | 4.80 | .458              |
| c) Enhancing the<br>quality of life for youth<br>lowers the rate of crime         | 158 | 2       | 5       | 4.49 | .693              |
| d) Affirmative action in<br>government tenders<br>reduces crime<br>prevalence     | 158 | 3       | 5       | 4.63 | .545              |
| e) creating technical<br>schools to develop<br>skills reduces crime<br>prevalence | 158 | 3       | 5       | 4.73 | .471              |
| f) Talent development<br>through sports reduces<br>crime prevalence               | 158 | 3       | 5       | 4.65 | .506              |
| g) Development of<br>legislative framework<br>reduces crime<br>prevalence         | 158 | 3       | 5       | 4.27 | .604              |

**Source: Author (2022)**

To combat crime, the government has adopted various strategies at different levels of government. (Mackatiani, Imbovah, Imbova, & Gakungai, 2016), highlight some of the government agendas such as integrate young people into all its programmes, to address youth issues effectively, especially unemployment. These strategies are applied starting from the national level, County level to communal level. The respondents

were asked to respond to some items in relation to these strategies. The findings revealed that youth empowerment & mainstreaming reduces crime prevalence ( $M=4.93$ ,  $SD=.255$ ). Giving young people credit without helping them access the markets only undermines efforts aimed at entrepreneurial orientation and community development (MOE, 2019). There was a strong agreement and very little deviation in relation to this item. Several strategies have been put in place to empower youth and mainstream the reduction of crime occurrences. Young people need to be provided with opportunities for self-empowerment and be able to earn their living to reduce the prevalence of crime.

One of the main hindrances to youth entrepreneurship is access to commercial markets. Many young people have begun startup companies in a variety of sectors. However, nearly all of them complain that other than limited access to financial credit, the other major factor is limited access to markets for their products. This study revealed that enabling youth access market opportunities ( $M=4.80$ ,  $SD=.458$ ) reduces cases of criminal activities. This is because youthful entrepreneurs can sell their produce and obtain raw materials for their SMEs.

These findings were supported by the County staff who observed that that:

*“The government policies to support the youth should be cascaded down to the local level. Youth should be allowed to access loans for businesses so that they can get legal source of income”.*

The goal of the government is to improve the quality of life for its citizens. This is done through several measures such as providing healthcare, education and economic stimulus programmes. This has a spillover and multiplier effect because it improves other

aspects of life. The respondents in the study agree that enhancing the quality of life for youth lowers the rate of crime ( $M=4.49$ ,  $SD=.693$ ). The government in several ways has enhanced the life of youth in Wajir County. This includes providing better infrastructure, creating an enabling environment an expanding investment and job opportunities.

The promulgation of the Constitution 2010 brought in its wake several benefits particularly for the marginalized groups including women and youth. One of the benefits was the entrenchment of affirmative action for women and youth in securing government tenders. The findings of this study revealed that affirmative action in government tenders reduces crime prevalence ( $M=4.63$ ,  $SD=.545$ ). When youth are provided with opportunity to secure government tenders, they can freely engage in entrepreneurship and improve their economic status. Thus, there will be no need to engage in criminal activities as a way of securing their livelihoods.

The criticism of the Kenyan education system was that the curriculum was not equipping young people with employability skills. This means the young men were graduating learning institutions with skills that were not commensurate with the labour market requirements. The study revealed that when young people are equipped with technical skills in the technical schools this will help reduce the crime prevalence rates. This was supported by the respondents ( $M=4.73$ ,  $SD=.471$ ).

One way to engage the youth is through talent development in sports. This is true according to the findings of the study which revealed that it reduces crime prevalence ( $M=4.65$ ,  $SD=.506$ ). There are several ways of engaging youth in talent development.



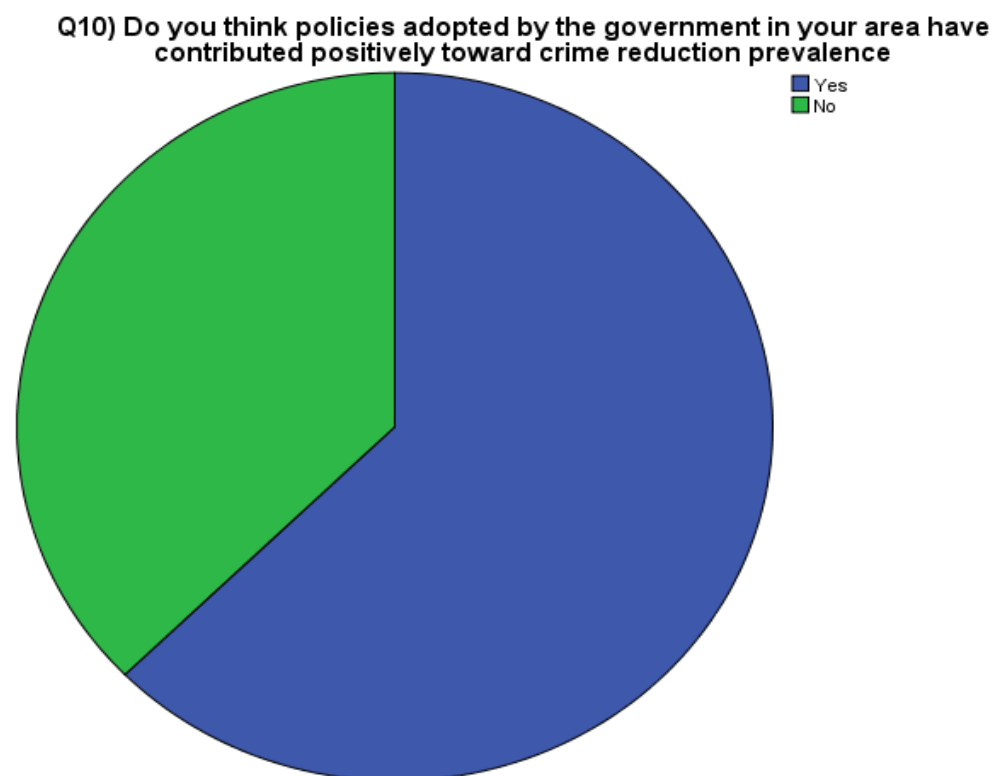
The ministry of youth affairs and sports has given prominence to the development of the youth talent through sports and other related activities.

There is need to develop and strengthen existing legislative frameworks to reduce criminal activities. the findings of the study revealed that the development of legislative framework reduces crime prevalence( $M=4.27$ ,  $SD=.604$ ). Most of the respondents agreed on this matter. The laxities and loopholes in the legal system have given opportunities for criminals to get away with crime and this make them bolder in committing crimes in future.

A Respondent had this to say regarding adoption of government employment policies:

*“If government policies are cascaded to the bottom, they would contribute to reduction in crime”*

The findings revealed that most of the respondents agreed that the policies adopted by the government have contributed positively towards reduction of crime prevalence. This is depicted in Figure 4.1. Some of the polices adopted include Nyumba Kumi initiative.



**Figure 4. 1: Responses on Policies Adopted by the Government**

**Source: Author (2022)**

#### 4.7 Strategies in crime prevention and its prevalence

The final research objective was to establish the relationship between strategies used in crime prevention and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County. Descriptive data analysis was conducted to establish the means and standard deviation. The findings are depicted in Table 4.10.

**Table 4. 9: Crime Prevention Strategies**

|   | N   | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std. Deviation |
|---|-----|---------|---------|------|----------------|
| Community policing prevents crime incidences                            | 158 | 3       | 5       | 4.73 | .522           |
| Community partnerships are effective in reducing the crime incidences   | 158 | 4       | 5       | 4.60 | .491           |
| Optimizing contact between officers and community lowers crime          | 158 | 3       | 5       | 4.59 | .598           |
| Establishing and maintaining mutual trust in the community lowers crime | 158 | 2       | 5       | 4.61 | .721           |
| Enlisting the cooperation of community members reduces crime            | 158 | 3       | 5       | 4.47 | .583           |
| Developing balanced partnerships reduces crime                          | 158 | 3       | 5       | 4.32 | .707           |

**Source: Author (2022)**

The role of the community in crime prevention is very critical. The findings of the study revealed that community policing prevents crime incidences ( $M=4.73$ ,  $SD=.522$ ). This is in line with (Alpert, Flynn, & Piquero, 2001; Kappeler & Gaines, 2009; Paez & Dierenfeldt, 2020; Peyton, Sierra-Arévalo, & Rand, 2019) who reported that successful community policing strategy are close, mutual beneficial ties between police and members of a given community. The respondents strongly agreed to this and were moderately divergent in their opinions. The community is involved in policing in various ways. The most popular initiative in community preventions is the Nyumba Kumi Initiative. Community is involved through the local leadership comprising village elders and local administrative officials. (Paez & Dierenfeldt, 2020) reported that involving the community provided a better opportunity to prevent crime occurrences.

The findings revealed that community partnerships are effective in reducing the crime incidences ( $M=4.60$ ,  $SD=.491$ ). The respondents were strongly in agreement with this statement. Various partnerships are formed at the communal level that involved neighbours working in partnership with each other and can keep one another informed of any occurrence or likelihood of crime occurrence (Paez & Dierenfeldt, 2020).

The relationship between the community and the law enforcement agencies is one that needs to be strengthened. The findings of the study revealed that respondents were strongly in agreement that optimizing contact between officers and community lowers crime ( $M=4.59$ ,  $SD=.598$ ). They did not differ largely in relation to this item. Law enforcement agencies can develop closer relationships with the community by working together on community uplifting projects such as clean up exercises, social service etc.

It is important that there is mutual trust between the community and the police. This was confirmed by the findings of the study where respondents agreed that establishing and maintaining mutual trust in the community lowers crime ( $M=4.61$ ,  $SD=.721$ ). One of the ways of maintaining trust is through having confidentiality and witness protection for those that provide information to the police that can lead to prevention of crime or arrest and conviction of criminals (Diphoorn & van Stapele, 2020) reported that establishing and maintaining mutual trust is the central goal of the first core component of community policing community partnership. The same sentiments are alluded to by (Camarinhas, 2019).

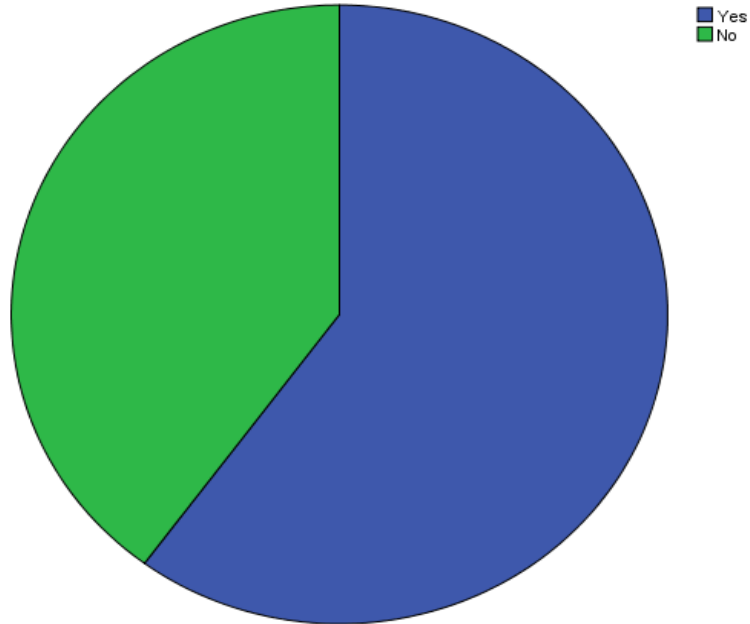
The study revealed that enlisting the cooperation of community members reduces crime ( $M=4.47$ ,  $SD=.583$ ). Respondents strongly agreed on this matter and there was little deviation in their responses as demonstrated by the standard deviation. Community members can be enlisted as police reservists who step up to support regular police in preventing criminal activities (Alpert et al., 2001).

Closely related to the preceding ideas is the issue of maintaining positive partnerships with the community. The findings of the study revealed that developing balanced partnerships reduces crime ( $M=4.32$ ,  $SD=.707$ ). However, the respondents deferred largely in their responses. There those on the extreme who held opposing points of view.

The findings of the study revealed that 60% of the respondents thought that the strategies adopted by the government and community have contributed towards reduction of crime prevalence in Wajir. This is depicted in Figure 4.2. The entire police

organization must be involved in enlisting the cooperation of community members in promoting safety and security (Paez & Dierenfeldt, 2020).

**Q12) Do you think the crime prevention strategies adopted by government and community in your area have contributed positively toward crime reduction prevalence**



**Figure 4. 2: Government Strategies on Crime Prevention**

**Source: Author (2022)**

#### **4.8 Pearson Correlation Analysis**

The Pearson's product moment correlation was based on the assumption that the data is normally distributed and because the variables are continuous. The findings are show in Table 4.11.

**Table 4. 10: Correlation Matrix**

|   |                     | Type of youth-<br>related crimes | Socio-economic<br>perspectives of youth<br>unemployment | Government policies<br>on youth<br>unemployment | Strategies in crime<br>prevention | Crime prevalence |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Type of youth-related crimes                      | Pearson Correlation | 1                                |   |   |                                   |                  |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | -                                |   |   |                                   |                  |
|   | N                   | 158                              |   |   |                                   |                  |
| Socio-economic perspectives of youth unemployment | Pearson Correlation | .612**                           | 1   |   |                                   |                  |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .000                             | -   |   |                                   |                  |
|   | N                   | 158                              | 158   |   |                                   |                  |
| Government policies on youth unemployment         | Pearson Correlation | .633**                           | .508**  | 1   |                                   |                  |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .000                             | .000  | -   |                                   |                  |
|   | N                   | 158                              | 158   | 153   |                                   |                  |
| Strategies in crime prevention                    | Pearson Correlation | .721**                           | .716**  | .757**  | 1                                 |                  |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .000                             | .000  | .000  | -                                 |                  |
|   | N                   | 158                              | 158   | 158   | 158                               |                  |
| Crime prevalence                                  | Pearson Correlation | .778**                           | .741**  | .762*   | .753**                            | 1                |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .000                             | .000  | .000  | .000                              | -                |
|   | N                   | 158                              | 158   | 158   | 158                               | 158              |

\*\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

**Source: Author (2022)**

The findings in Table 4.11 shows that type of youth-related crimes has a strong positive correlation with crime prevalence in Wajir County at 99% confidence level ( $r=0.778$ ;  $p<0.01$ ). Moreover, socio-economic perspectives of youth unemployment is strongly positively correlated with crime prevalence in Wajir County at 99% confidence level ( $r=0.741$ ;  $p<0.01$ ). In addition, government policies on youth unemployment is strongly positively correlated with crime prevalence in Wajir County at 99% confidence level ( $r=0.762$ ;  $p<0.01$ ). Finally, strategies in crime prevention is also strongly positively correlated with crime prevalence in Wajir County at 99% confidence level ( $r=0.753$ ;  $p<0.01$ ).

The findings shows that there is a positive and significant relationship between the typology of youth-related crimes and crime prevalence in Wajir County, that there is a positive and significant relationship between socio-economic perspectives of youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir County, that there is a positive and significant relationship between government policies on youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County and that there is a positive and significant relationship between strategies used in crime prevention and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County.



## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the summary, conclusions, recommendations, limitations and suggestions for further study. The main purpose of the study was to establish the relationship between youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir County.

#### **5.2 Summary of the Findings**

The summary of findings focuses on the following sub-headings that formed the study objectives:

##### **5.2.1 Typology of youth-related crimes and crime prevalence in Wajir County**

The first objective of the study was to determine the relationship between the typology of youth-related crimes and crime prevalence in Wajir County. The findings showed that youth engage in covert criminal activities. Youth are prone to deviant behavior and are politically manipulated by politicians to instigate violence. Wajir County due to its proximity to the Somalia border has witnessed several terrorist activities. The pastoralist lifestyle of the population has created an environment suitable to cattle rustling activities. Youth engage in this to fulfill cultural obligations. The prevalent criminal activities in the area emerged as rape; drug trafficking, robbery, murder and violence. These findings concur with Rocque, Posick and Hoyle (2016) who noted that the types of criminal activities that young people engage in are varied and young people engage in criminal activities such as drug peddling, carjacking, mugging, burglary and robbery. The main reason why they participate in these criminal activities is

not exactly known, however, sociologists postulated that youth prefer to engage in activities that are easy to get away with and that do not carry heavy custodial sentences.

### **5.2.2 Socio-economic perspectives of youth unemployment and crime prevalence**

The second research objective was to establish the relationship between socio-economic perspectives of youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir County. The results indicate that economic hardships have propelled the youth to engage in criminal activities. The criminal activities prevalent in the County are closely associated with the prevailing poverty among the County's population. The study established that social exclusion was a major factor in fueling criminal activities. Social inequalities and income differentials that place the youth at a social disadvantaged position have pushed them to engage in crime. The study established there was atypical relationship between the socio-cultural context and crime in the County. These findings concur with Matsueda (2017) who found out that criminality is dependent upon social structure and social networks within a given locality while Warr (2002) finds that influence of peers is also important aspect and the low levels of education have also aggravated economic hardships among the population that drives the largely youthful population to unemployment.

### **5.2.3 Government policies on youth unemployment and crime prevalence**

The third research objective set out to establish the relationship between government policies and youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County. The findings indicate that the government has adopted various strategies at various levels of governance, national, regional and county levels. Amongst the strategies is the mainstreaming of efforts to reduce crime through economic empowerment

activities. Youth have been provided with opportunities for self-empowerment and access to commercial markets. The study established that government's effort in enhancing the quality of people's lives reduces the incidences of crime in the County. The government's affirmative action in providing access to tenders for young people has opened access to business opportunities. This has helped reduce crime prevalence in Wajir County. The findings are in line with Kimera, *et al.*, (2019) who noted that there is need to come up with strategies and development agenda to enhance quality of life of Kenyan youths and some of strategies include providing employment opportunities for the youths through government programs like Kazi Kwa Vijana.

The studies established that promotion of youth talent through sports has an effect of reducing crime prevalence in the County. There is need to strengthen the existing legislative frameworks and government policies to address the weak areas that encourage youth participation in crime. These findings concur with Mackatiani, Imbovah, Imbova and Gakungai (2016) who highlighted some of the government agendas such as mainstreaming youth in all its programmes in order to effectively address youth concerns particularly unemployment.

#### **5.2.4 Strategies in crime prevention and its prevalence**

The final research objective was to establish the relationship between strategies used in crime prevention and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County. The study findings indicated that the community has a key role to play in preventing crime through community policing activities such as the Nyumba Kumi initiative. Effective community partnerships need to be developed and strengthened. The government agencies need to develop trust between themselves and the community by cooperating in community-

based activities. These findings concur with Diphoorn and van Stapele (2020) who reported that establishing and maintaining mutual trust is the central goal of the first core component of community policing community partnership. Sierra-Arévalo and Rand (2019) who reported that successful community policing strategy are close, mutual beneficial ties between police and members of a given community.

### **5.3 Conclusions**

The study finds that there is a relationship between the type of crime prevalent in Wajir County and youth. Youth engage criminal activities that are typical to them. This includes rape, violence, robbery, murder, and covert criminal activities such as drug trafficking.

The study also notes that socio-economic factors influence the crime prevalence in Wajir County. Youth engage in crime because of socio-cultural and economic reasons. The prevalent unemployment, poverty and social exclusion are key drivers of youth participation in crime.

The study further concludes that government policies regarding youth unemployment contributed significantly in addressing youth-related criminal activities in the County. Youth empowerment programmes such as affirmative action, opening up market access have contributed to the improved quality of life, which has reduced youth participation criminal activities.

The study established that strategies used in crime prevention in the County such as community policing and communal partnerships are critical in prevention crime

related to youth. It established that development of mutual trust between the community and security agencies was important in reducing crime prevalence.

#### **5.4 Recommendations**

The study recommends the following:

To address the first objective that aimed to determine the relationship between the typology of youth-related crimes and crime prevalence in Wajir County, the study recommends that the County government should identify the type of youth-related crimes which common among the youths in Wajir County. This will enable them to come up with appropriate strategies to reduce those crimes since different crimes have different ways in dealing with them. In addition, the County government of Wajir should come up with more specific policy initiatives to address unemployment in the County. The initiatives should Centre on rehabilitation of drug addicts and abusers, the construction of TVETs and polytechnics and the creation of industries through private public partnerships.

Since socio-economic perspectives of youth unemployment were established to be positively related to crime prevalence in Wajir County, the study recommends that economic empowerment initiatives should be better coordinated with young people first receiving training to equip them with money management and enterprise skills before being given loans. If enterprise and money management skills are taught, young people are likely to start more profit-making ventures. The study also recommends that study recommend that the leading development stakeholders such as international aid organizations and their development partners should push for a broad economic agenda to

attract investors into the country and create jobs for young people. This would serve as the best strategy to mitigate the high number of crime rates in Wajir County.

To address the third objective that aimed to examine the relationship between government policies on youth unemployment and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County, the study also recommends that the County government of Wajir should come up with appropriate policies that are meant reduce youth unemployment by enhancing access to initiatives like youth funds and 30% preference in public procurement for youth. These policies should be tailored towards ensuring that youths are engaged in various income generating projects. If youths are effectively engaged, they will not have time to participate in criminal activities.

To address the fourth objective that aimed to establish the relationship between strategies used in crime prevention and the prevalence of crime in Wajir County, the study further recommends that the County government of Wajir should come up with appropriate strategies for crime prevention to reduce the prevalence of crime in Wajir County. Security initiatives including Nyumba Kumi, Toa habari kwa polisi, de-radicalisation and amnesty for returnees should particularly engage the youth and ensure that they are part of the decisions made by the government. There is also a need for communal partnership and trust between youth and security agencies need to be strengthened by involving youth in community policing and development initiatives.

### **5.5 Suggestions for Further Research**

This study was only restricted to Wajir County only. Hence, the study recommends that future studies be conducted to establish the relationship between youth unemployment and crime prevalence in other counties in Kenya. The study also recommends that future studies should look at challenges facing county government in dealing with unemployment among the youths. Future studies should also look at strategies aimed at concurrently addressing unemployment and crimes within Wajir County.

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## APPENDICES

### Appendix I: Introduction Letter

12/05/2022

Africa Nazarene University

P.O Box 495-00610, Nairobi.

Dear Respondent,

#### **RE: REQUEST FOR QUESTIONNAIRE COMPLETION**

I am a student of Master of Science in Governance, Peace and Security at Africa Nazarene University. I am conducting a research on the antecedent of security implementation success so as to meet the degree requirement. The study is being undertaken in Wajir County. This research is purely academic and will not be used whatsoever for any other purpose. The answers you will give will be important for my passing the degree requirement. Please help me to achieve this goal by completing the questionnaire given the best of your knowledge following the instructions given after each item and return your complete questionnaire to the researcher. Your cooperation and assistance in this study is highly appreciated.

**(Your Name)**

Signature.....

Date.....

## **Appendix II: Consent Form**

### **Dear Respondent**

I am a student at Africa Nazarene University, and conducting a study establish relationship between youth unemployment and crime prevalence in Wajir County, Kenya. The results of this study will hopefully improve the security situation not only in Wajir County but also in the other remaining counties in Kenya. It is my understanding that you are currently or have participated in security program.

I am interested in your experience in the government security programs implementation; I have enclosed a questionnaire which asks you to respond to a series of statements and questions. The sub-sections in the questionnaire focus on youth unemployment and how you were involved in enhancing safety of the community and also oneself. Other sections also seek to ask you to report how often you complained about the reluctance of the authority especially in responding to security threats

I have enclosed a consent form for your review. Please read the form and feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the study. If you choose to participate, please sign, initial and date the consent information form and return it along with the completed questionnaire in the self-addressed envelope. I look forward to learning about your experiences in the government security implementation program. Your participation will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely

NurDubow Abdi

Africa Nazarene University

Phone Number: 0727334638

### Appendix III: Questionnaire

The purpose of this questionnaire is to collect data related to youth unemployment and prevalence of crime in Wajir County. The researcher is a student at Africa Nazarene University and the data is required for the Masters Degree in Governance, Peace and Security Studies. The researcher assures all the respondents that information provided in the questionnaire will be treated with utmost confidentiality and will not be shared with any third party.

You are requested to answer all the questions diligently respond to all the questions and true to your knowledge.

**Instructions:** Do NOT indicate your name anywhere in the questionnaire.

Please respond to the items as provided using a tick (✓) where applicable or give an explanation where needed.

#### SECTION 1: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

1. Gender:        a) Male        ( )        b) Female        ( )
2. Age bracket: a) 18-30years ( )        b) 31- 40years ( )        c) 41-54 years ( )
3. Level of Education
  - a) O-Level ( )        b) A-Level ( )        c) Tertiary College ( )
  - d) University ( )

#### SECTION 2: TYPOLOGY OF YOUTH-RELATED CRIMES

4. Please tick inside the box that best agree or disagree with the statements below.  
**Strongly Agree (SA) = 5, Agree (A) =4, Not Sure (NS) = 3, Disagree (DA) =2, Strongly Disagree(SD) =1**

| Statement |   | SA<br>(5) | A<br>(4) | NS<br>(3) | DA<br>(2) | SD<br>(1) |
|-----------|---|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| a)        | Covert criminal activities are mainly perpetrated by youthful elite |           |          |           |           |           |
| b)        | Perpetrators of covert crime mostly go scot free                    |           |          |           |           |           |
| c)        | Overt crime is easily identifiable                                  |           |          |           |           |           |
| d)        | Youthful people are more prone to deviant behavior                  |           |          |           |           |           |

|    |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| e) | Young people are more involved in politically instigated violence |  |  |  |  |  |
| f) | Youth support terrorist groups to carry out attacks               |  |  |  |  |  |
| g) | Youths are used by politicians to perform acts of lawlessness     |  |  |  |  |  |
| h) | Young people engage in cattle rustling to fulfill cultural duties |  |  |  |  |  |
| i) | Drug-trafficking and abuse is rampant among the youth             |  |  |  |  |  |

5. List any criminal activities which young people engage in that you are aware of

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6. In your own opinion, do you think the criminal activities domiciled in your area are predominantly related to the youth?

YES or NO. (*Please provide reason for your answer*)

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### SECTION 3: SOCIO-ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVES

7. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statements below.

**Strongly Agree (SA) = 5, Agree (A) =4, Not Sure (NS) = 3, Disagree (DA) =2, Strongly Disagree(SD) =1**

| Statement |   | SA<br>(5) | A<br>(4) | NS<br>(3) | DA<br>(2) | SD<br>(1) |
|-----------|---|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| a)        | Youth engage in criminal activities due to economic reasons   |           |          |           |           |           |
| b)        | Criminal activities are closely related to the poverty levels |           |          |           |           |           |
| c)        | Social exclusion plays a major role in crime prevalence       |           |          |           |           |           |

|   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| d | Income inequalities push young people to engage in crime                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| e | Social-cultural background is related to the propensity to engage in crime      |  |  |  |  |  |
| f | Youth engage in crime because of financial rewards                              |  |  |  |  |  |
| g | Probability of apprehension & conviction is considered before engaging in crime |  |  |  |  |  |

8. In your own opinion, do you think these socio-economic determinants of youth unemployment are related to crime-prevalence?

YES or NO. (*Please provide reason for your answer*)

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#### SECTION 4: GOVERNMENT POLICIES

9. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statements below.

**Strongly Agree (SA) = 5, Agree (A) =4, Not Sure (NS) = 3, Disagree (DA) =2, Strongly Disagree(SD) =1**

| Statement   | SA<br>(5) | A<br>(4) | NS<br>(3) | DA<br>(2) | SD<br>(1) |
|---|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| a Youth empowerment & mainstreaming reduces crime prevalence            |           |          |           |           |           |
| b Enabling youth access market opportunities                            |           |          |           |           |           |
| c Enhancing the quality of crime for the youth lowers the rate of crime |           |          |           |           |           |
| d Affirmative action in government tenders reduces crime prevalence     |           |          |           |           |           |
| e Creating technical schools to develop skills reduces crime prevalence |           |          |           |           |           |
| f Talent development through sports and reduces crime prevalence        |           |          |           |           |           |

|   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| g | Development of legislative framework reduces crime prevalence |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|

10. In your own opinion, do you think the policies adopted by government in your area have contributed positively towards reduction of crime prevalence?

YES or NO. (*Please provide reason for your answer*)

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 .....  
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### SECTION 5: CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGIES

11. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statements below.

**Strongly Agree (SA) = 5, Agree (A) =4, Not Sure (NS) = 3, Disagree (DA) =2, Strongly Disagree(SD) =1**

| Statement   | SA<br>(5) | A<br>(4) | NS<br>(3) | DA<br>(2) | SD<br>(1) |
|---|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| a Community policing prevents crime incidences                            |           |          |           |           |           |
| b Community partnerships are effective in reducing the crime incidences   |           |          |           |           |           |
| c Optimizing contact between officers and community is lowers crime       |           |          |           |           |           |
| d Establishing and maintaining mutual trust in the community lowers crime |           |          |           |           |           |
| e Enlisting the cooperation of community members reduces crime            |           |          |           |           |           |
| f Developing and during and balanced partnerships reduces crime           |           |          |           |           |           |

10. In your own opinion, do you think the crime prevention strategies adopted by government and community in your area have contributed positively towards reduction of crime prevalence?

YES or NO. (*Please provide reason for your answer*)

.....  
 .....  
 .....

#### **Appendix IV: Key Interview Guide**

1. What type of criminal activities do the youth in Wajir County engage in?

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2. What are the major causes of youth unemployment in Wajir County?

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3. How does youth unemployment contribute to high criminal prevalence?

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4. Which are the government instituted policies to reduce the prevalence of crime in Wajir County?

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5. What are the crime prevention strategies used to reduce high crime prevalence in Wajir County?

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## Appendix V: University Introductory Letter



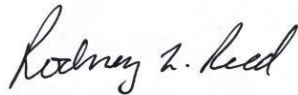
11<sup>th</sup> June 2020

### RE: TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

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NurDubow Abdi (18J03DMGP022) is a bonafide student at Africa Nazarene University. He has finished his course work and has defended his thesis proposal entitled: - *“Relationship Between Youth Unemployment and Crime Prevalence in Wajir County, Kenya”*.

Any assistance accorded to him to facilitate data collection and finish his thesis is highly welcomed.



Rodney Reed, PhD.

DVC Academic & Student Affairs.



## Appendix VI: NACOSTI Authorization Letter

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  <p><b>REPUBLIC OF KENYA</b></p> <p><b>Ref No: 195608</b></p>   |  <p><b>NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR<br/>SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY &amp; INNOVATION</b></p> <p><b>Date of Issue: 11/May/2021</b></p> |
| <p><b>RESEARCH LICENSE</b></p>   |   |
|    |   |
| <p><b>This is to Certify that Mr. Nur Dubow Abdi of Africa Nazarene University, has been licensed to conduct research in Wajir on the topic: Relationship Between Youth Unemployment and Crime Prevalence in Wajir County, Kenya, for the period ending 11/May/2022.</b></p> |   |
| <p><b>License No: NACOSTI/P/21/10438</b></p>   |   |
| <p><b>Applicant Identification Number</b></p> <p><b>195608</b></p>   |   |
| <p><b>Director General</b></p> <p><b>NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR<br/>SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY &amp; INNOVATION</b></p>  |   |
| <p><b>Verification QR Code</b></p>    |   |
| <p><b>NOTE: This is a computer generated License. To verify the authenticity of this document, Scan the QR Code using QR scanner application.</b></p>  |   |

## Appendix VII: Map of the Study Area



Source: Google Map